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Dowagiac Daily News

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www.bcsheriff.org

Sheriff, Chuck Heit

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'A space for everyone'

Cassopolis Beer Company opens downtown

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

CASSOPOLIS — A building that has watched over downtown Cassopolis for nearly 130 years is now offering tasty brews, bar bites and more to the community.

The Cassopolis Beer Company, 139 N. Broadway St., opened its doors for the first time Monday afternoon. Owned by Ted and Kortney Romanetz, CBC features a variety of beer brewed on site, a tap room where visitors can enjoy beer, wine, cider, craft sodas and neo-neapolitan wood fired-style pizzas, appetizers and salads as well as a spacious outdoor patio.

The brewing space features several fermentation tanks, sleeved in jackets and connected to a thermostat to control the precise temperatures required for various-styles of beer. A sealed cold-room houses 2,000-pound vessels resting on an insulated floor, a feat which required finding a floor that could handle the weight and building the room around the vessels once they were in place.

"It was a lot of excitement, joy and fear," Kortney said. "We just felt like we were finally ready. We did all we could do and we just gotta go for it and see what happens. People love the beer, so that's really exciting."

The restaurant is conducting a "soft" opening this week, with hours from 3 to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

See BEER, Page A7

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
Kortney and Ted Romanetz opened Cassopolis Beer Company this week.

Man dies in reported Juno Lake drowning

STAFF REPORT

MASON TOWNSHIP — A man has died after drowning in Juno Lake in Mason Township, according to the Cass County Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Richard J. Behnke reports that at approximately 9:53 p.m. Sunday, his office was called for a man that had fallen out of a Kayak in Juno Lake in.

Investigation shows that a male was fishing in a kayak when he fell out of the kayak and was unable to swim. The Cass County Marine Division/ Dive Team was called to the scene. The Cass County Marine Deputies and Dive Team, along with the Indian Lake Dive Team were able to locate and recover the male kayaker. The male was pronounced deceased at the scene.

A Lifejacket was not worn. Alcohol may have been a factor in this incident. This incident remains under investigation.

Assisting with this incident were SEPSA Fire, SEPSA Ambulance, Indian Lake Fire and Dive Team, and Penn Fire/Drone.

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
The Cass County Sheriff's Office announced this week the addition of "DD", a new K9 member to the department.

Cass County Sheriff's Office welcomes new K9

STAFF REPORT

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Assisting with this incident were SEPSA Fire, SEPSA Ambulance, Indian Lake Fire and Dive Team, and Penn Fire/Drone.

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FESTIVE FUN

Annual Dowagiac Summer Festival sets attendance record

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

DOWAGIAC — Dowagiac's annual summer festival returned this weekend in historic fashion.

The Greater Dowagiac Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual Dowagiac Summer Festival and BBQ Competition Friday, July 19 and Saturday, July 20 in downtown Dowagiac.

Festivities took place both Friday and Saturday. Front Street was closed in the central business district to vehicle traffic as a record-setting 4,500 people explored vendors, sidewalk walk sales, food trucks and activities.

"The Dowagiac Summer Festival and BBQ Competition was a huge success," said Dowagiac Chamber Marketing and Event Coordinator Matt Money. "There was fun had by all ages. The new pop up splash pad was a hit and we

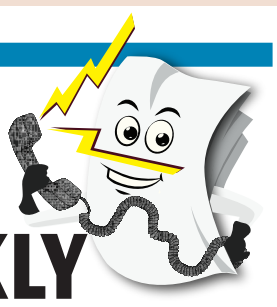
See FESTIVE, Page A8

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
The Greater Dowagiac Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual Dowagiac Summer Festival and BBQ Competition Friday, July 19 and Saturday, July 20 in downtown Dowagiac.

OBITUARIES

William Blanton
Lillian L. Owen
Jeffery Paul Wetzel
David Nelson McClelland Jr
Roger Tumbleson
James Rothrock
Michael Opulskas
Charlene Gast
Robert Szamecki
James Franklin Grady Sr.
Charles M. Lindley Sr.
Rex A. Beal

A6



FRANKLY

TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

"Now who's the old man running for the Oval Office? A2

Sweep Buchanan duo take top two spots at Steve's Run B1

FRANKLY

TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

What is Frankly? It is where readers sound off on issues of the day. Have a tip, quip or blip? Call Frankly at (269) 687-7702 or email scott.novak@leaderpub.com

"I paid $120 for a product. To my surprise, there was no pamphlet inside with necessary instructions. I have to read the instructions on-line for the sake of green energy, according to the company. Why is everything going on-line? The Internet failed us recently. And it will again. Bad moments are coming for our Internet trust."

"Are Diversity, Equity and Inclusion important to you when you choose your heart surgeon? Being qualified for a role in our government appears to not be the top priority. Sadly, DEI often is."

"'Unity' my *%&%$^! After 15 minutes, Trump was back to his voting conspiracy garbage and Nancy bashing. I'm not sure how this unifies the country."

"Biden is putting the US ahead of himself. I give him credit for stepping down and letting the next, newest generation take us forward."

"Now who's the old man running for the Oval Office?"

"Biden should have stepped down 6 months ago. Now it is a rush to the finish line. He had four years to make up his mind."

"I'm glad Trump is ok. The US cannot have this nonsense."

"Did the GOP offer "thoughts and prayers" to Donald Trump?"

"J.D. Vance said Trump is an "idiot" and "reprehensible" and compared him to Adolf Hitler. My how things have changed when your political career gets a shot at the big time."

"Biden stepping down is the very best thing that could have happened to this country."

"If the former is not safe, then none of us can be safe anywhere at any time in this country. "

"Apothica is such an amazing spot to have in our small town!! Love seeing them constantly growing!!"

WEATHER

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Sunny	Chance of Storms	Chance of Storms	Chance of Storms	Partly Cloudy	Chance of Rain
83° 63°	80° 67°	85° 70°	83° 67°	83° 68°	85° 69°

A SIZZLING SUCCESS

Weez's Groovin' BBQ wins annual Dowagiac BBQ Competition

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

DOWAGIAC — 26 pitmasters from across the country descended on downtown Dowagiac Saturday, July 20 to compete for top honors in its second annual Dowagiac BBQ Competition.

When the charcoal settled, Brian Calhoun of Grace Lake. Ill. took home Grand Champion honors as Weez's Groovin' BBQ after earning fourth and second places in both the chicken and rib categories. Cameron McKee's Skinny Pig BBQ of South Beloit, Ill. earned Reserve Grand Champion with 11th and first place finishes in chicken and ribs respectively. Lisa Larson and Jamie Jackson of Too Sauced Guys Bar-B-Que placed first in chicken and sixth in ribs for a sixth-place finish overall.

"I'm stoked," McKee said. "To not even get a top 10 and to be considered for Reserve, it's insane. I just had a really high rib score and then I had 11 for chicken. I'm blown away."

The competition was sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbecue Society – the largest competitive barbecue organization in the world. The event brought 26 pitmasters, 26 judges and enthusiasts from all over the country to downtown Dowagiac.

The competition was fierce, with KCBS-certified BBQ judges judging the meats based on KCBS standards. The win was a pleasant surprise for McKee, who personally felt his chicken turned out better than his ribs.

"When they called chicken and I wasn't even in the top ten, I'm like 'well, there goes the day,'" he said. I've been fifth place in chicken three times in a row and I just can't seal the deal. My ribs have been all over the place so I kept adjusting slightly and today I decided to do what I usually do on chicken and then just wing it on ribs."

McKee said he has participated in 10 BBQ competitions and feels he has improved with every contest.

"I've come a long way," he said. "Last year I didn't even get a single call. This is the first year I've gotten a call and now I've got a call in every single contest I've been to."

Michael and Carol Eckes, of Heartland, Wisconsin placed six overall as Wapatui

See SIZZLING, Page A8

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
26 pitmasters from across the country descended on downtown Dowagiac Saturday to compete for top honors in its second annual Dowagiac BBQ Competition.

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SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

The World's Largest Olympic Watch Party in Buchanan 2021.

Buchanan to host 'World's Largest Olympics Watch Party'

COMMUNITY REPORT

BUCHANAN — The City of Buchanan will once again host the World's Biggest Olympic Watch Party for Buchanan native and Olympic Medalist Hannah Roberts.

Mayor Sean Denison announced that the watch party will take place at 7 a.m. Wednesday, July 31 at the Buchanan Common with a rebroadcast at 7:00 p.m. at the same location. Hannah will compete for the Gold Medal in the Paris Olympics in the BMX Freestyle Event.

Buchanan currently boasts the title of "World's Biggest Olympic Watch Party in History" that was earned in 2021 when Hannah competed and brought home the Silver Medal from the Tokyo Olympics. Nearly 3,000 people watched from Buchanan as Roberts became the first woman to land a 360-degree tail whip in competition alongside her parents and family who were unable to attend the event in person due to COVID constraints.

The Paris 2024 Watch Party will feature a large Jumbotron TV on the Buchanan Common which will air the live competition from Paris. The event is free to the public and all are invited to come out and cheer Roberts on. The Common is an outdoor venue and spectators are asked to bring their own chairs and be prepared for any weather conditions.

"Hannah competed in the Tokyo Olympics in 2021 and won the Silver Medal in front of what NBC Sports has called the largest Watch Party in Olympic history with estimated attendance between two to three thousand," Denison said of the event. "All of Buchanan was out that night and we came together as one. It was truly one of the most memorable events in Buchanan history. Let's do it again and cheer Hannah on for another successful Olympic competition, this time in Paris.

"Hannah continues to be an inspiration for all of Buchanan and across the world as she proves once again that you can go from the small town all the way to the world stage," Denison added. "NBC Sports covered the Tokyo 2021 Watch Party and is aware of the Paris 2024 Watch Party and hopefully our small town can once again be seen by the eyes of the entire world."

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN TABERNACLE:

Please take notice that a special meeting of the members of the above named church will be held at the Niles Public Library in the Board Room in the city of Niles, MI on the 29th day of July, AD 2024 at the hour of 6:00 in the p.m. for the purpose of considering action on the removal of Morton Trent Avance as pastor due violation of By-Law 19 and dereliction of pastoral duties.

Dated July 10, 2024.

President, Charles Fouché

Vice President and Director, Pearcy Tobar, Sr.

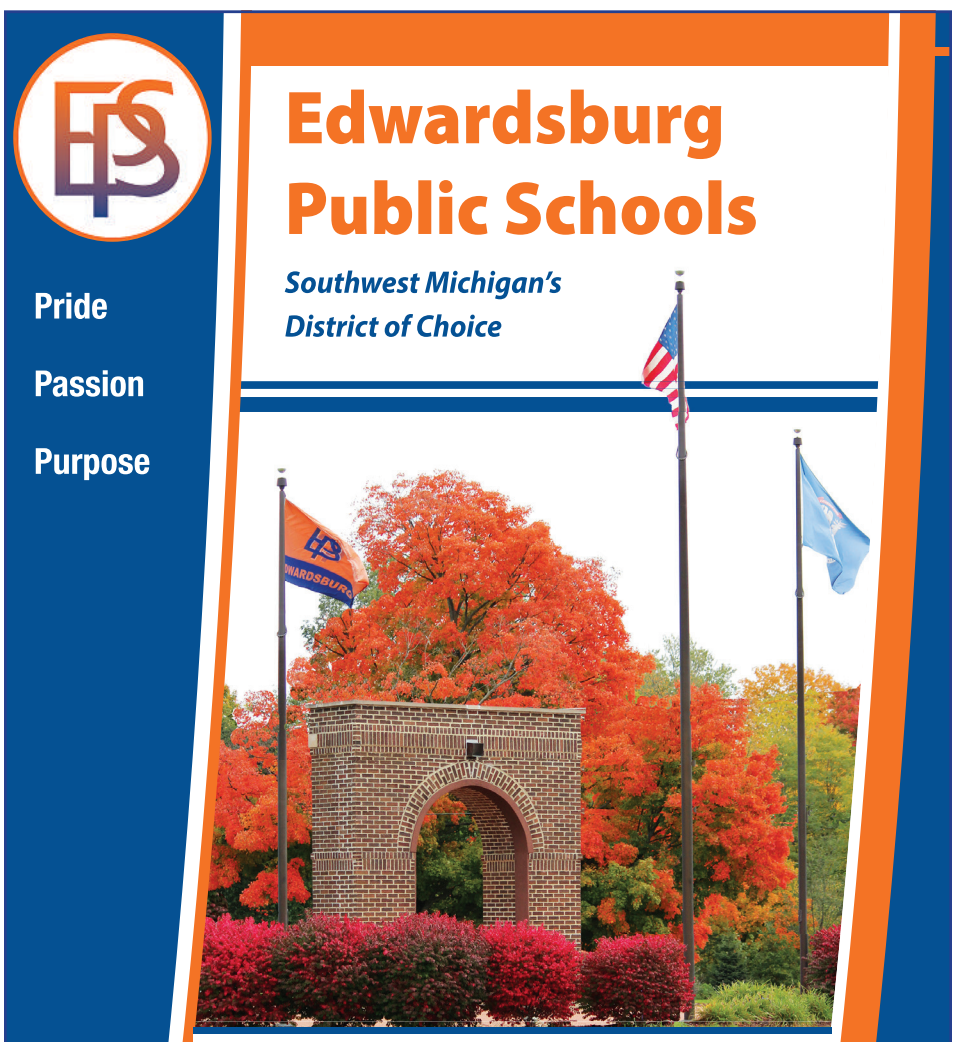
Secretary, Sherry Barnes Pollack

Treasurer, William Lawson

Director, Shannon Fouche'

Director, Joan Tobar

CASS COUNTY
PET of the WEEK
Duke
Duke just may be a young distant relative of the infamous Marmaduke because of his clumsy mischievous ways as he's full of energy and loves to play!
Duke came to us just recently and needs a new home with plenty of room to run and play as he's got plenty of energy to burn off. He does have a few manners and will sit pretty for his treats but hasn't quite figured out how to catch them yet.
If you are looking to bring Duke into your home, his adoption fee is $65.00.
Meet Duke!
(269) 445-3701 • 323 M-62 Cassopolis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Applications are available and being accepted electronically, July 29 - August 16, 2024, at www.edwardsburgpublicschools.org for any Kindergarten - 12th grade student living in Cass County and contiguous districts in Berrien, St. Joseph, and Van Buren Counties. Please complete a separate application for each student.
For more information, contact Kimberly Slack at 269-663-3055 or kslack@goeddies.com.
Additional spots will be considered as they become available.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

July 26-27

High school reunion

The Niles High School Class of 1969 is celebrating its 55 year reunion with a Friday evening gathering July 26 and reunion Saturday evening July 27, 2024. Invitations with further details will be emailed or mailed in May. Classmates can submit or update their email and mailing addresses to the reunion committee at nilesclass69@aol.com.

October 13

Newton House Festival

The Cass County Historical Society is excited to announce its annual Fall Festival, taking place from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13. The event will be held at the Newton House, located at 20689 Marcellus Highway, Decatur, MI, on the historical grounds. There will be guided tours of the Newton House, live music and a silent auction. Local artisans will be showcasing their talents, and Civil War reenactors will be on site with a cannon firing demonstration.

The event will also feature complimentary cider, popcorn, apples, cookies and a variety of activities including hayrides, a petting zoo and kids yard games. A kids costume contest will also be held and new this year is its first annual kids pie-eating contest.

Dowagiac native and esteemed author Ron Kirkwood will be in attendance for readings and autographs of his new book on Gettysburg's George Spangler Farm.

For more information, visit the Facebook pages for either the Newton House or the Cass County Historical Society.

Send calendar items to the newsroom at news@leaderpub.com, or drop them off at the office, 217 N. Fourth St., Niles.

Residents from across the county are busy gearing up for the annual Cass County Fair taking place from Sunday, July 28 to Saturday, Aug. 3 in Cassopolis.

Cass County Fair schedule of events

STAFF REPORT

CASSOPOLIS — The Cass County Fairgrounds has come to life once again.

Residents from across the county are busy gearing up for the annual Cass County Fair taking place from Sunday, July 28 to Saturday, Aug. 3 in Cassopolis.

The fair will host many 4-H club competitions, a carnival and grandstand entertainment.

General gate admission is $7 for adults daily, $2 for children 6 to 12 and free for children under the age of six. Throughout the fair, there will be a number of days during which certain individuals can enter for free or a reduced price.

Below is a schedule of events:

Monday, July 2 — Veteran's Day

Veterans will receive free admission with ID. The featured events in the grandstand will be the Super Kickers Rodeo starting at 7 p.m. The carnival opens at 2 p.m. and the 4-H livestock shows scheduled for Monday include dairy, horse and pony, sheep and dairy feeder.

Monday, July 30 — Kiddie's Day

Children 6 to 12 are admitted free. The farm tractor and antique tractor pull begin at 9 a.m. in the grandstand. Livestock shows scheduled for the day include horse and pony, swine and youth draft horse cart and team classes. The main event in the grandstand will be the NTPA regional national tractor and truck pulls beginning at 7 p.m. The carnival will open at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, July 31 — Law Enforcement Day

Officers are admitted free with ID. The rides go on with the carnival opening again at 2 p.m. Youth livestock classes start off with the beef and rabbit shows, followed by the draft horse halter classes, the goat show and draft horse showmanship. The ATV Big Air Tour is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. in the grandstand.

Thursday, Aug. 1 — Senior Citizen's Day

Seniors 60+ are admitted free. Youth livestock shows scheduled for this day are horse and pony, cats, poultry and draft horse utility and obstacle classes. The youth market livestock auction begins at 10 a.m. in the show arena, beginning with swine followed by dairy feeder steers, milk and beef before ending with sheep. The carnival will be open at 2 p.m. The Cass County Fair will host its seventh annual Handi-Capable Day, an event tailored to fairgoers with special needs. Participants have exclusive access to the carnival area and receive a meal. For more details about this special event, contact the fair office at (269) 445-8265 or at casscountyfair@gmail.com.

The band BLAMMO is scheduled to perform at 7 p.m. in the grandstand.

Friday, Aug. 2 — Frontline Day

Healthcare workers are admitted free with ID. The demolition derby presented by TNT Demolition Derby is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. in the grandstand. The carnival will open at 2 p.m. Livestock shows on this day include horse and pony, goat costume class, and both small and large animal sweepstakes. Also, the pedal pull, Ag Olympics and the youth livestock judging contest will take place. Fireworks will be hosted at dusk, weather permitting.

Saturday, Aug. 3 — Family Day

$1 admission will be offered from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The final youth horse and pony classes will be hosted Saturday morning. The youth small animal auction begins at 9 a.m., starting with eggs, poultry, goats and rabbits. The adult alumni horse show and horse cart & hitch show will be hosted. The carnival opens at noon. The festivities for the week will conclude with the Mud Mitten Race Series in the grandstand at 7 p.m.

Forest Glen to host vendor market Aug. 9

STAFF REPORT

DOWAGIAC — Forest Glen Assisted Living, 29601 Amerihost Dr., Dowagiac, is hosting a vendor event from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 9.

The event will feature a wide variety of artisans, vendors and food trucks from across Michiana, including V's Glizzy's, The Goblin Grove, Fay's Designs, Think Goodness/Origami Owl (jewelry), Your Leather Lady and more. The free event will also have a bubble machine and a small bounce house for kids, as well as music.

Beckwith Theatre presents 'Dial M for Murder'

STAFF REPORT

DOWAGIAC — The Beckwith Theatre Company presents "Dial M For Murder," a play by Frederick Knott.

Performances will take place at 7:30 p.m. July 27, Aug. 2-3 and 2 p.m. July 28 and Aug. 4 at Beckwith Theatre, 100 New York Ave, Dowagiac. Tickets are available at $15 apiece.

Directed by Jeffrey Gunn, the classic murder mystery follows Tony Wendice, a former writer who concocts a plan to murder his wealthy wife, Margot. With the help of a sharp-witted detective, Margot fights to clear her name and reveal the truth about her husband's deadly scheme gone awry.

The cast features Bill Svelmore as Tony, Frank Quirk as Inspector Hubbard, Jeff Starkey as Max, Joe Morin as Thompson, Kathryn Hein as Margot and Kirk Proshwitz as Captain Lesgate. Lainie Kaniuga is the stage manager for the production. For more information, visit beckwiththeatre.com.

City to apply for state disaster fund grant

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

DOWAGIAC — The Dowagiac City Council is seeking assistance with the costs associated with responding to the aftermath of the tornado that swept through the area in May.

The council approved a resolution Monday to allow the Dowagiac Fire Department to apply for a State Disaster Contingency Fund Grant.

On May 7, the Dowagiac area was hit by a tornado that damaged homes, property and local infrastructure. The City's Fire Department and Department of Public Services worked to mitigate a variety of emergencies directly related to the weather event.

Since a state of emergency was declared in Cass County following the tornado, programs are available to local agencies to assist with the costs associated with responding to the emergency. The Fire Department has prepared a grant application through the Section 19 Disaster Assistance Program in the amount of $12,857.20 which would pay for the replacement of city equipment damaged in the response effort.

"We're always glad to help out and we're happy to be there to help during those times," said City Manager Kevin Anderson. "It is nice that there is a form of reimbursement that can cover some of the costs. This gives us the opportunity to participate in programs like other emergency agencies do."

In other business, council adopted a supplement to the city's Community Engagement Statement regarding CDBG Grants.

The City Council adopted the Community Engagement Statement in April 2020, which sets forth how the city intends to provide information and seek public opinions for projects and matters of future development including the Master Plan, Parks and Open Space plan and Zoning Ordinances Updates.

Recently, the City has been awarded a variety of grants that utilize Community Development Block Grant funds. These programs require that additional criteria be included in our Community Engagement Statement that specifically address the efforts related to CDBG grants.

There are some new requirements – they're not significantly different but they have to do with timing and how we get the word out, so we've updated our plan to match what the state requirements are now," Anderson said.

Council approves water meter replacement/maintenance program

The council voted to begin implementation of a meter replacement/maintenance program for its existing 2,288 meters using Neptune meters with an initial budget of $80,000 that will include 104 meters plus software, equipment and training.

The American Water Works Association recommends that every water utility accurately meter all water taken into its system and all water distributed from its system at its customers' points of service. According to city documents, data collected from accurate metering is essential for wholesale and retail customer billing, system performance studies and facility planning.

The city is currently utilizing multiple brands of water meters – Badger, Zenner, AB Kent, AMCO and Rockwell – with multiple styles made with multiple materials – displacement, ultrasonic, brass and plastic – that range from 1 to more than 20 years old. Currently the appropriate hardware for our meters is unavailable, requiring us to piece together multiple parts to read a meter. Between February and June of this year, 12 random meters were removed from residential properties and flow tested for accuracy. Nine out of the twelve meters failed the accuracy testing at either the minimum or maximum allowable limit.

Multiple suppliers were interviewed by city staff and multiple meters were researched, including Badger, Kamstrup, and Neptune meters. Established in 1886, the Neptune Technology Group partners with nearly 100 Michigan utilities and more than 4,000 water utilities across North America.

"We want to be sure that we've got fully accurate meters in so that everybody is paying a fair share," Anderson said. "This is the first round of taking all of the older meters out and replacing them with newer ones. Every 15 to 20 years is kind of a standard on this and we're more than that at the 20 to 25 year mark on most of our meters."

Michigan guests win $376,699, $322,231 Four Winds online jackpots

COMMUNITY REPORT

NEW BUFFALO — The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi's Four Winds Casinos announced Thursday that a guest from Fenton won a $376,699 jackpot on July 9 while playing Jackpot Shores with a $6.75 bet on its online casino. Another guest from Detroit won a $322,231 jackpot on July 18 while playing Divine Fortune with a $20 bet on its online casino. Both winners chose to remain anonymous and the games have been reset for other winners to take home massive jackpots.

"In total there have been 15 jackpots greater than $43,000 at Four Winds Casinos locations since May including a progressive jackpot that exceeded $1 million at Four Winds New Buffalo on May 17," said Mary Smith, Chief Operating Officer of Four Winds Casinos. "Whether you choose to play online, or at one of our four physical locations, there's always a chance to win a life-changing jackpot when you play at Four Winds Casinos."

Recent jackpots greater than $43,000 at Four Winds Casinos locations since May include:

New Buffalo

•5/1, Jackpot: $104,500, Guest from Valparaiso, Ind., Game: Mystical Mermaid, $100 Bet

•5/11, Jackpot: $51,009, Guest from Hobart, Ind., Game: 3x4x2x, $15 Bet

•5/17, Jackpot: $1,008,222, Guest from Harvey, Ill., Game: UFL Explosion, $15 bet

•5/19, Jackpot: $80,874, Guest from Schiller Park, Ill., Game: Shamrock Fortune, $0.80 bet

•6/12, Jackpot: $86,322, Guest from Mooresville, Ind., Game: Firestarter, $1.60 bet

•7/21, Jackpot: $60,000, Guest from Laporte, Ind., Game: Double Diamond Deluxe, $75 bet

South Bend

•5/2, Jackpot: $104,500, Guest from Valparaiso, Ind., Game: Mystical Mermaids, $100 bet

•5/4, Jackpot: $74,626, Guest from South Bend, Ind., Game: Huff N More Puff, $3.75 bet

•5/13, Jackpot: $60,450, Guest from Bluffton, Ind., Game: 2x3x4x5x Irish Shamrocks, $30 bet

•7/12, Jackpot: $97,303, Guest from South Bend, Ind., Game: Lock it Link Piggy Bankin, $1 bet

•7/20, Jackpot: $55,359, Guest from Elkhart, Ind., Game: Lightning Link, $5 bet

Dowagiac

•5/7, Jackpot: $43,200, Guest from Grand Junction, Mich., Game: Stuffed Coins Toad, $5.28 bet

Hartford

•5/21, Jackpot: $50,000, Guest from Coloma, Mich., Game: Double Gold, $1 bet

iGaming

•7/9, Jackpot: $376,699, Guest from Fenton, Mich., Game: Jackpot Shores, $6.75 bet

•7/18, Jackpot: $322,231, Guest from Detroit, Mich., Game: Divine Fortune, $20 bet

Dowagiac Daily News

ADMINISTRATIVE
PUBLISHER
Rich Cains
(219) 455-2349
rich.cains@leaderpub.com

ACCOUNTING MANAGER
Rhonda Rauen
rhonda.rauen@leaderpub.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE & DISTRIBUTION
Donna Knight
(269) 687-7717
donna.knight@leaderpub.com

EDITORIAL
SPORTS EDITOR
Scott Novak
(269) 687-7702
scott.novak@leaderpub.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Maxwell Harden
231-750-5776
max.harden@leaderpub.com

ADVERTISING
Dennis Hinsey
(269) 362-1525
dennis.hinsey@leaderpub.com

DESIGN CENTER MANAGER
Allison Dale
allison.dale@leaderpub.com

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Joshua Turnock
Caitlin Schlemmer

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
(269) 591-6105

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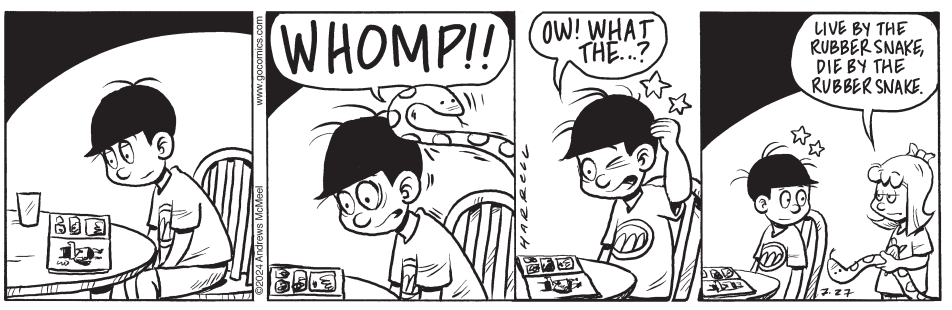
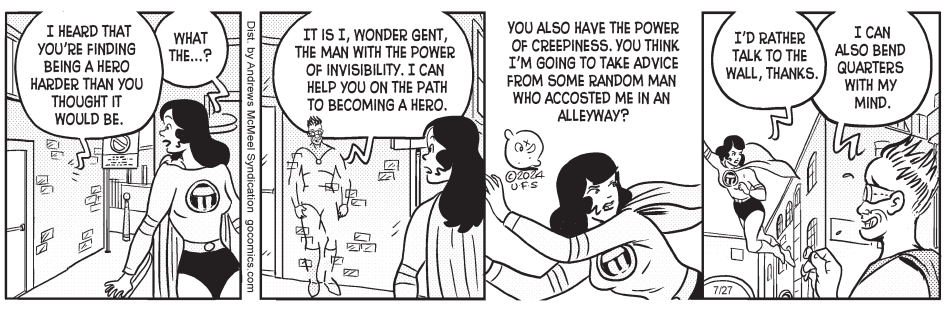
COMICS & PUZZLES

ADAM



ALLEY OOP


I HEARD THAT YOU'RE FINDING BEING A HERO HARDER THAN YOU THOUGHT IT WOULD BE.
WHAT THE...?
IT IS I, WONDER GENT, THE MAN WITH THE POWER OF INVISIBILITY. I CAN HELP YOU ON THE PATH TO BECOMING A HERO.
YOU ALSO HAVE THE POWER OF CREEPINESS. YOU THINK I'M GOING TO TAKE ADVICE FROM SOME RANDOM MAN WHO ACCOSTED ME IN AN ALLEYWAY?
I'D RATHER TALK TO THE WALL, THANKS.
I CAN ALSO BEND QUARTERS WITH MY MIND.
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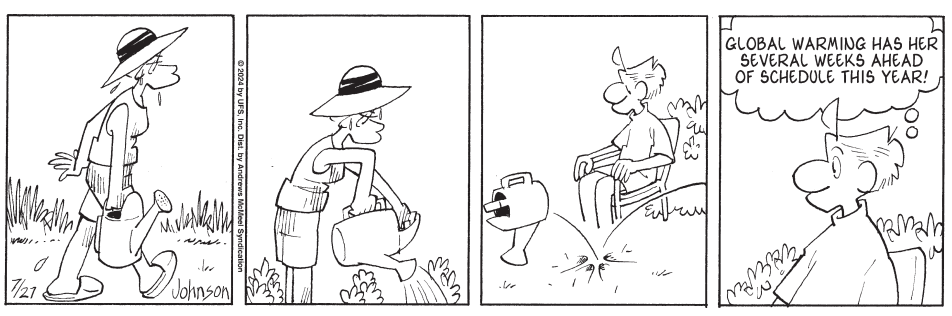
ARLO & JANIS


GLOBAL WARMING HAS HER SEVERAL WEEKS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE THIS YEAR!
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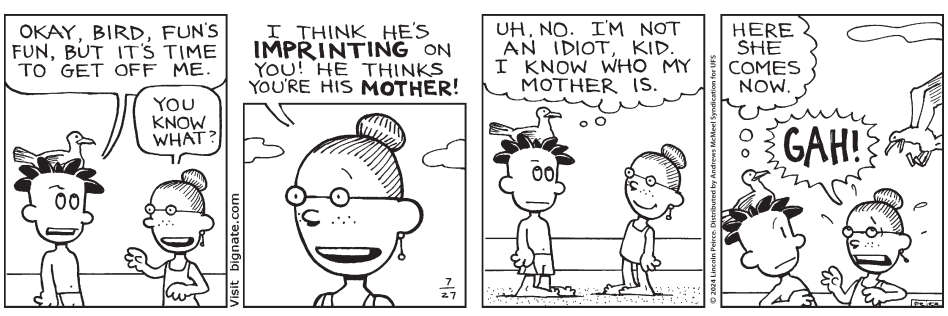
Johnson

BIG NATE


OKAY, BIRD, FUN'S FUN, BUT IT'S TIME TO GET OFF ME.
YOU KNOW WHAT?
I THINK HE'S IMPRINTING ON YOU! HE THINKS YOU'RE HIS MOTHER!
UH, NO. I'M NOT AN IDIOT, KID. I KNOW WHO MY MOTHER IS.
HERE SHE COMES NOW.
GAH!
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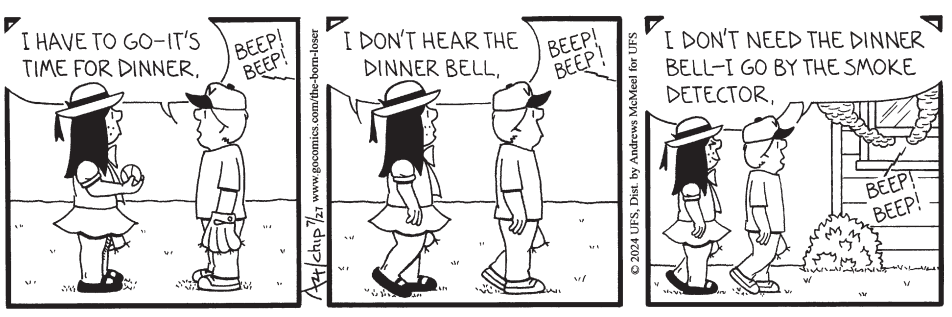
BORN LOSER


I HAVE TO GO–IT'S TIME FOR DINNER.
BEEP! BEEP!
I DON'T HEAR THE DINNER BELL,
BEEP! BEEP!
I DON'T NEED THE DINNER BELL–I GO BY THE SMOKE DETECTOR,
BEEP! BEEP!
Art/Chip 7/27 www.gocomics.com/the-born-loser
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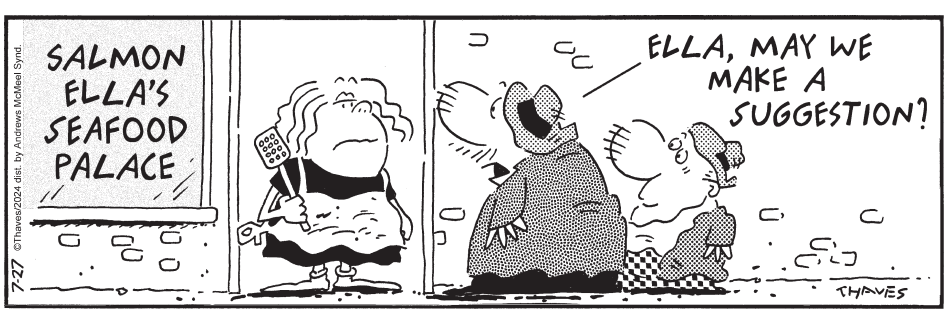
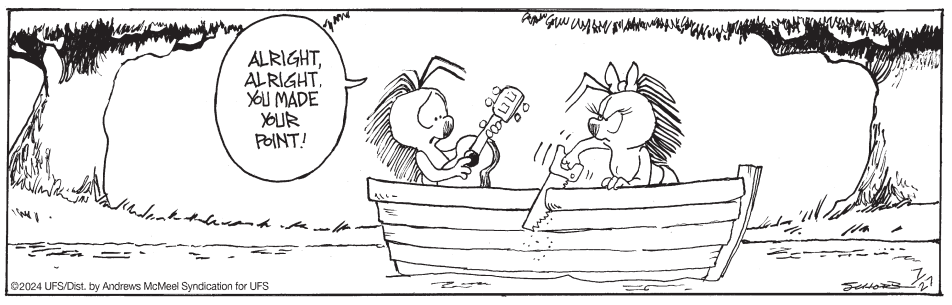
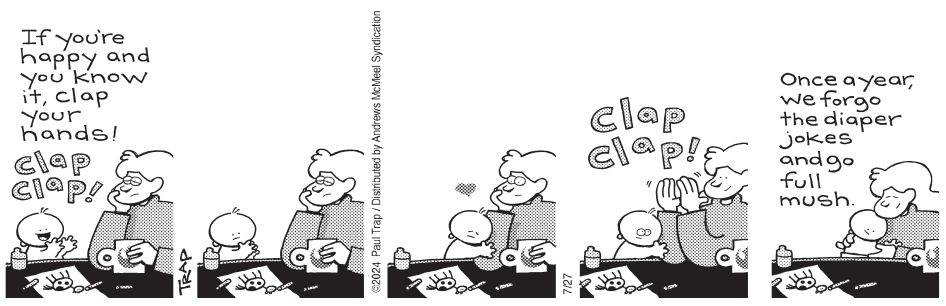
FRANK & ERNEST



GRIZZWELLS



THATABABY


If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!
Clap clap!
Clap clap!
Once a year, we forgo the diaper jokes and go full mush.
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SODOKU PUZZLE

HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

DIFFICULTY RATING: 5/5

ANSWER ON PAGE 6

			3		1	5		
				6		9	7	
				7			2	1
	6	3		4				9
				1				
5				9		7	6	
8	7			5				
	3	6		8				
		1	9		7			

MODERATELY CONFUSED

MY THINGS-TO-UNDO LIST IS BIGGER THAN MY THINGS-TO-DO LIST.
STAHLER 7/27
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REALITY CHECK

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

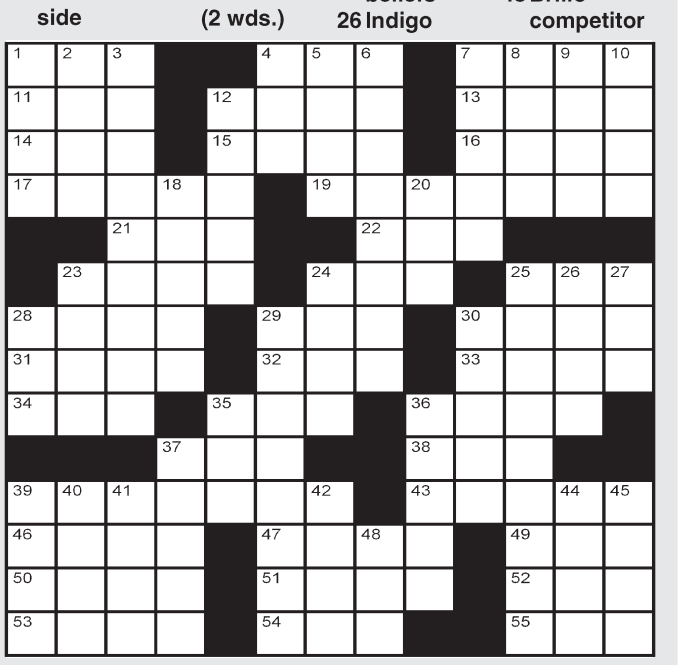
ACROSS

1 Cheer from the stands
4 Baseball's Ripken
7 Quarrel
11 Clean air org.
12 Island near Java
13 Two
14 "Do — — say ..."
15 Border on
16 Unseen emanation
17 Clemency
19 Butted in
21 Female animal
22 Caviar
23 Degree recipient
24 Dye vessel
25 — Tuesday (Mardi Gras)
28 Methods
29 In shape
30 Went down
31 "— — a Kick Out of You"
32 Sheltered side
33 Hodge-podge
34 Sailor
35 Forefoot
36 Parking lot sign
37 Liquor
38 "Born in the —"
39 "— and Old Lace"
43 Town in Georgia
46 Costa —
47 Proboscis
49 Nest egg letters
50 Apple product
51 Well-behaved
52 Pinna
53 Gainsay
54 Harvest goddess
55 Like a fox

DOWN

1 500 sheets
2 Domed church area
3 Salon item (2 wds.)
4 Hack
5 Astringent substance
6 Able to read and write
7 Shovel
8 Sir — McCartney
9 River in England
10 Jazz type
12 Howled
18 Go effortlessly
20 Speck
23 Rock's Lady —
24 Prospect
25 Mistaken beliefs
26 Indigo
27 Ring decision
28 Humor
29 Pink bird
30 March King
35 Play on words
36 Was in a rage
37 Prepare
39 Dry
40 Ready to eat
41 Diagnostic picture
42 Farm structure
44 Spoken
45 — a soul
48 Brillo competitor

ANSWER ON PAGE 6



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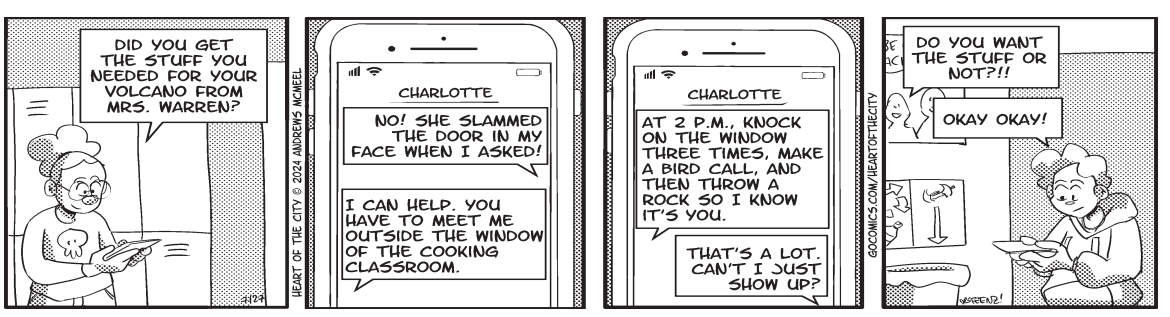
BREVITY

SO THE ONLY THING THEY HAVE HERE IS THE "FRIENDS" SPINOFF, "JOEY," AND THE LAST THREE SEASONS OF "THE OFFICE"?
YEP, BUT WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO? MAY AS WELL WATCH 'EM AGAIN!
BINGEWATCH AND PURGATORY
GOCOMICS.COM/BREVITY 7-27
© 2022 ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION BREVITYCOMIC@GMAIL.COM DAN

HEART OF THE CITY


DID YOU GET THE STUFF YOU NEEDED FOR YOUR VOLCANO FROM MRS. WARREN?
CHARLOTTE
NO! SHE SLAMMED THE DOOR IN MY FACE WHEN I ASKED!
I CAN HELP. YOU HAVE TO MEET ME OUTSIDE THE WINDOW OF THE COOKING CLASSROOM.
CHARLOTTE
AT 2 P.M., KNOCK ON THE WINDOW THREE TIMES, MAKE A BIRD CALL, AND THEN THROW A ROCK SO I KNOW IT'S YOU.
THAT'S A LOT. CAN'T I JUST SHOW UP?
DO YOU WANT THE STUFF OR NOT?!!
OKAY OKAY!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2024 ANDREWS MCMEEL
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DEATH NOTICES

William Blanton, 79, passed away on Tuesday, July 23, 2024, in Niles, Michigan. Arrangements have been entrusted to and are pending with Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Lillian L. Owen, 85, of Union, died Wednesday, July 24, 2024. Arrangements are being made by Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, of Cassopolis.

Jeffery Paul Wetzel, 41, of Niles, died Monday, July 15, 2024. A celebration of life gathering will be held at 3 p.m., on Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024, at Riverfront Park, Niles, MI. Arrangements entrusted to Swem Chapel, Buchanan, 269-695-6881. www.swemchapel.com.

David Nelson McClelland Jr., 88, passed away on Sunday, July 21, 2024, in Mishawaka, Indiana. Arrangements have been entrusted to and are pending with Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Roger Tumbleson, 76, of Niles, passed away Thursday, July 22, 2024 surrounded by his family. Arrangements are pending with and have been entrusted to Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

James Rothrock, 77, of Niles, passed away on Thursday, July 18, 2024. Arrangements are pending and have been entrusted to Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Niles. www.BrownFuneralHomeNiles.com

Michael Opulskas, 67, of Benton Harbor, passed away Thursday, July 18, 2024. Arrangements have been entrusted to Allred Funeral Home in Berrien Springs. Services to be held on August 11. www.AllredFuneralHome.com

Charlene Gast, 78, of Niles, passed away Thursday, July 18, 2024. Arrangements are pending and have been entrusted to Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, of Niles. www.BrownFuneralHomeNiles.com

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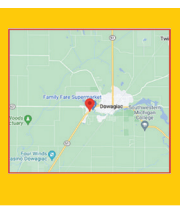
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• Served as Southwestern Michigan Economic Growth Alliance Director: Facilitated over $100 million in new investment for the Greater Niles Area
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Paid for By Friends to Elect Sharon Tyler for County Commissioner
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OBITUARIES

Robert Szamecki

Dec. 7, 1945-July 17, 2024

Robert Stanley Szamecki, known affectionately to his friends and family as Bob, passed away peacefully on July 17, 2024, at his sister's home in Niles. Born in South Bend on Dec.7, 1945, to the late Stanley Edward Szamecki and Lucille Jessee Syson, Bob was a devoted brother, uncle, and friend who brought light and warmth to every life he touched.

Robert enjoyed recreational boating, tinkering with anything mechanical, photography, the outdoors and developing relationships with genuine and sincere people. If you considered Bob a friend, count yourself in this category.

Robert was a humorous and caring man that gave as much of himself to others as he possibly could. Robert was incredibly active until just a few short days before he passed. He made indelible marks on those closest to him with his unmatched wit and his willingness to assist friends and family. Robert leaves an unfillable void for those who knew him, which is testament to the space he occupied in our hearts and minds. He will live on in our lives as we are reminded of some of his quips while we're engaged in future conversations, while we're enjoying a particularly beautiful day on the water, when watching a magnificent sunset on a beach somewhere, or when we're in need of assistance and we wish we had our Bob to call for help...

Preceding Bob in passing are his parents, and sister, Marcie Campbell.

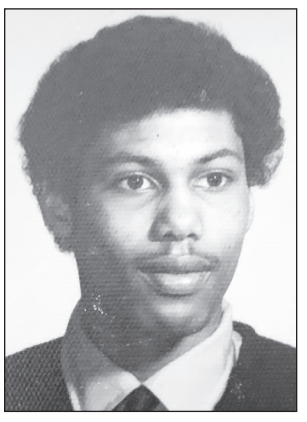
Robert is survived by his sisters, Marianne Abair and Marilyn Sue Lacy and numerous nieces and nephews.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Per Bob's wishes he will be cremated, and his family will be remembering him privately.

Photos, condolences, and memories may be left for Bob's family at www.BrownFuneralHomeNiles.com

Bob's legacy is one of authenticity and caring, and he will be profoundly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.



James Franklin Grady Sr.

Dec. 3, 1953-July 12, 2024

James Franklin Grady, Sr. of Detroit, Michigan departed his earthly life to begin his eternal life on Friday, July 12, 2024.

His life began on Dec. 3, 1953 in Three Rivers, Michigan, the son of Albert Grady, Jr. and Barbara Buck Wilson. James graduated from Dowagiac Union High School in 1972. James received an Associate Degree in Heating and Cooling. He was employed at Eastern Michigan University for 30 years where he retired.

James loved family get togethers where he was the jokester. He also loved spending time with his grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

James will be greatly missed by family and friends. He leaves to cherish his memories, his wife of 25 years, Rethia, 5 sons, James II (Jaquitta), Cedvic (Sarah), Garin (Jaleesa), Deon (Joan) and Darius, 1 daughter, Crystal, 6 sisters, Vicki (Earl), Cathy (Larry), Tracy, Michelle, Gale and Kay and 2 brothers, Danny and Matthew. James was preceded in death by his mother.

Family and friends will gather at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3, 2024 until time of service at 3 p.m. at Pye Funeral Home, 17600 Plymouth, Detroit, Michigan.

Charles M. Lindley Sr.

June 9, 1962-July 16, 2024

Charles Michael "Chuck" Lindley, 62, of Cassopolis, died Tuesday, July 16, 2024.

His life began June 9, 1962, in Tucson, Arizona, fourth of five children born to Charles and Gladys Lindley. He married Tamara Lee Pattee Sept.18, 1999, in Cassopolis, Michigan.

Chuck cherished his family and enjoyed people. He had a distinct voice, and you would always know when he was around. He loved golfing, throwing horseshoes, having get-togethers with his family, playing cards, and watching basketball. He grew up attending The Lord's House Church in Cassopolis. Chuck started and grew C.L. Painting. He was passionate and proud of his business and the community that he loved.

Chuck will be greatly missed by family and friends. He is survived by his beloved wife of twenty-five years, Tammie Lindley of Cassopolis; daughter, Brooke (Amy Nelson) Lindley of Kalamazoo; son, Charles Michael "CJ" Lindley Jr. of Cassopolis; stepsons, Eric (Nichole) Keck of Cassopolis, Tadd (Katie) Caudill of Marcellus; three granddaughters, Emma, Ella, Bryanna; sisters, Debra (Keith) Barnum of Cassopolis, Lawara "Jean" (Tom) Casey of Dowagiac; brother, John Lindley of Cassopolis; half-brother, Ted Lindley of Elkhart, Indiana; and a host of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; stepson, Trent Caudill; brother, Jeff Lindley; and nephew, JP Gartland III.

Family and friends will gather Saturday, July 20, 2024, from 12 noon until time of service at 2 p.m., in Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, 202 North Broadway Street, Cassopolis.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.

Rex A. Beal

Feb. 9, 1957-July 22, 2024

Rex Alan Beal, 67, of Vandalia, died peacefully Monday July 22, 2024.

His life began Febr. 9,1957 in Muncie Indiana the only child born to Ruth Ann Beal.

Rex, aka Pops, lived life on his own terms. He had his own way and there was no changing it. He loved being out in the woods and with his dog Dutchess. Rex could often be found out at the BBQ fixing up about anything, including pizza, brats, pork chops, ribs and chicken. He was a jack of all trades. He learned to do about anything all on his own.

Rex will be greatly missed by family and friends. He is survived by one daughter, Kristi Wares of Elkhart Indiana; two sons, Jerome (Marianne Behrends) Wares of Vandalia, Justin (Krystal Dunham) Wares; ten grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by mother Ruth Ann Beal.

A Barbeque will be held in his honor at a later date.

Rex will be laid to rest in Bogue Street Memorial Garden.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com

CROSSWORD ANSWER
From Page 5

R	A	H	■	■	C	A	L	■	S	P	A	T
E	P	A	■	B	A	L	I	■	P	A	I	R
A	S	I	■	A	B	U	T	■	A	U	R	A
M	E	R	C	Y	■	M	E	D	D	L	E	D
■	■	D	O	E	■	■	R	O	E	■	■	■
■	G	R	A	D	■	V	A	T	■	F	A	T
W	A	Y	S	■	F	I	T	■	S	A	N	K
I	G	E	T	■	L	E	E	■	O	L	I	O
T	A	R	■	P	A	W	■	F	U	L	L	■
■	■	■	R	U	M	■	■	U	S	A	■	■
A	R	S	E	N	I	C	■	M	A	C	O	N
R	I	C	A	■	N	O	S	E	■	I	R	A
I	P	A	D	■	G	O	O	D	■	E	A	R
D	E	N	Y	■	O	P	S	■	■	S	L	Y

SUDOKU ANSWER
From Page 5

6	9	7	3	2	1	5	4	8
1	2	5	4	6	8	9	7	3
3	4	8	5	7	9	6	2	1
2	6	3	7	4	5	8	1	9
7	8	9	6	1	2	4	3	5
5	1	4	8	9	3	7	6	2
8	7	2	1	5	6	3	9	4
9	3	6	2	8	4	1	5	7
4	5	1	9	3	7	2	8	6

BEER

Continued from page A1

to make sure its systems are in order. Once it is officially open, hours will be 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week.

"We're hoping to get a lot of locals in here and host certain events and stuff to get us through the winter months and kind of bring people down to this area during that time so that we can be open every day and keep consistency," Kortney said.

The soft openings were well-attended with community members who were excited to see the space brought to life again. The building, which was originally built in 1895, was home to the Central Cass Fire Department until its relocation to M-60 in 2017.

Local Jim Beebe was happy to see the brewery open and hopes the it will become an entertainment destination for people from Cassopolis and beyond.

"I'm just really happy to see the community growing and expanding and making Cassopolis a destination," he said. "I can bring my friends here to entertain them and not have to go someplace else."

The Romanetzes come to the area from Colorado. Ted, who grew up in Mishawaka, was familiar with the village. He met Kortney in college and lived with her in Colorado until moving back to the area to open the brewery.

Ted worked as a brewer in Colorado for almost seven years, coming from a background in water chemistry. He described his style as gravitating toward, lagers, pilsners, and IPAs. He hopes to have beers that those more used to classic domestics can enjoy.

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

Kortney and Ted Romanetz opened Cassopolis Beer Company this week.

While he brews beer, Kortney will focus on front room operations. Large ovens serve up neo-neapolitan wood fired-style pizzas, inspired by favorite pizzas from Colorado and named after their favorite places there. Appetizers and salads will also be offered, with the eventual plans to add sandwiches. They are starting intentionally with a small menu, creating flexibility to adjust to give the community what it wants.

Ted, who studied sustainability in school, will utilize local fruits and other ingredients in the beer and food.

According to Kortney, the community's support and anticipation has been much appreciated.

"It's been wonderful," she said. "Ted's coming back home, I'm living here for the first time so that was kind of nerve-wracking but it's been great."

The Romanetzes plan to host events in the space and will offer doggy space for canine companions next summer.

"That will be nice for people," she said. "We'll have yard games and everything. We're growing grass for that next year."

The couple looks forward to serving the Cassopolis community for years to come.

"We hope to bring a warm space to hang out with your friends and try a drink or a yummy pizza and nice events," she said.

"We have a great patio – not a lot of places out here have good patios, you're always looking for them. We really want a nice space for anyone and everyone to gather, and children are welcome because it's Michigan."

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All children through high school get in the gates FREE!
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Tickets: $15 Reserved Seating
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NOTICE - PUBLIC LAND AUCTION

The Cass County Treasurer will offer tax-reverted real estate at public auction on September 3rd, 2024.

The auction will be held online at **www.tax-sale.info** from 10:00am to 7:00pm EDT. Bids can also be placed up to 30 days in advance on the website, and assistance is available for those without computer or internet access.

Incomplete or voided sales from the September 3rd auction, if any, will be re-offered online on September 26th, 2024. Please visit **www.tax-sale.info/faq** for additional details.

For more information and a list of the properties being sold, visit **www.tax-sale.info** or call 1-800-259-7470. Sale listings *may* also be available at the county treasurer's office.

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MONDAY AUGUST 5 @ 10:00 A.M.
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SIZZLING

Continued from page A2

Smokers, placing second overall in chicken and 13th in ribs. The couple began barbecuing two years ago and started competing last year.

"After a year, it was like 'I wonder how good my ribs are compared to other people," Michael said. "I started messing around on the patio and started competing and then we started learning things and getting good and just doing it on the weekends. It's a good time, lots of nice, friendly, people and you learn a lot."

For Michael and other competitors, friendships are one of the highlights of contests.

"It's like one big family," Michael said. "They want to help you and they want you to be better. We were so new a year ago, we didn't know anything and they'll tell you exactly what they do and to try new things to improve your skills."

"It's a really nice community, it's like a Brotherhood," Larson said. "Everyone is nice and very friendly. Everyone helps each other."

McKee and several other groups came away impressed with Dowagiac's festival and look to return in the future.

"I've been to contests where they won't even bring out an ash bucket, no grease bucket or garbage, so they do a really good job here," McKee said. "You can tell they have people that have been around barbecue before organizing it."

"It's such a charming downtown," Larson said. "I love the old buildings, so many towns tear them down. It's very cute, has a very good setup and is nicely organized."

Complete results from the competition:
Overall
1. Weez's Groovin' BBQ
2. Skinny Pig BBQ
3. Hess Hogs
4. Too Sauced Guys Bar-B-Que
5. Hoosier BBQ
6. Wapatui Smokers
7. Overcurrent BBQ
8 BBQ Mike
9. Collins Custom BBQ
10. Porkasaurus Rex BBQ

Chicken
1. Too Sauced Guys Bar-B-Que
2. Wapatui Smokers
3. Hoosier BBQ
4. Weez's Groovin' BBQ
5. Porkasaurus Rex BBQ
6. Hess Hogs
7. Overcurrent BBQ
8. BBQ MIKE
9. Diddy's Delectable 3BQ
10. Collins Custom BBQ

Ribs
1. Skinny Pig BBQ
2. Weez's Groovin' BBQ
3. Buckeye Blue Smoke BBQ
4. Hess Hogs
5. Hoosier BBQ
6. Too Sauced Guys Bar-B-Que
7. Smoky J's BBQ
8. Collins Custom BBQ
9. BBQ Mike
10. Overcurrent BBQ

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FESTIVE

Continued from page A1

are so excited to make it bigger and better next year. We had more than 80 vendors on Front Street, 350 Steve's Run participants, 26 teams participating in the BBQ competition and 26 judges traveled from all over the nation to join us in Dowagiac. Oak+Ash hosted a great evening of live music, BBQ and beer on Friday night."

Friday night, hundreds of runners gathered for the annual Steve's Run 5K. Families browsed summer sales at retail specialty shops, and the booths of artisans, community organizations and commercial vendors.

The barbeque competition, featuring chicken and pork rib categories, took place Saturday in the Slope's parking lot. While shopping local vendors and storefronts, guests were able to both see and smell the contestants in action. The competition was fierce, with KCBS-certified BBQ judges judging the meats based on KCBS standards. When the dust settled, Brian Calhoun of Weez's Groovin' BBQ of St. Louis, Missouri took home Grand Champion honors.

Money said the chamber has already begun brainstorming how it can make the festival even better next year, including adding a people's choice category.

The event was sponsor-driven through the support of Lyons Industries, ReLeaf Center of Dowagiac, Southwestern Michigan College, Sturgis Bank - Niles Branch, Midwest Energy & Communications, Padnos Dowagiac Recycling Center, Meridian Title, Xfinity and D.MottL Realty.

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Sports

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Chettleburgh, Bolt win Diamond Lake Triathlon titles

KELLY SWEENEY | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

Swimmers hit the water at 7:30 a.m. as the first wave of the 2024 Diamond Lake Triathlon participants got things under way last Saturday.

By SCOTT NOVAK
scott.novak@leaderpub.com

CASSOPOLIS — Perfect conditions greeted a sold edout field for the 2024 Diamond Lake Triathlon last Saturday.

Under sunny skies and mild temperatures when the first wave hit the water in front of Diamond Lake Triathlon, Michael Chettleburgh captured the men's title with an overall time of 59:24.

Lori Bolt took home the women's championship with a time of 1:05.20.

"The 2024 the Diamond Lake triathlon was completely sold out as 175 participants enjoyed water temperatures of 78-degree air temperatures on a beautiful sunny day," said Race Director Joe Fazzini. "Our winners came from multiple locations, including Tri Locos of Indianapolis and Tree threats of Granger Indiana. Additionally, 18 relay teams, which was a record, toed the line. Our youngest competitor was eight years old and our oldest 81."

A total of 10 different states were represented in the field. An additional 65 volunteers helped make the Diamond Lake Triathlon a success.

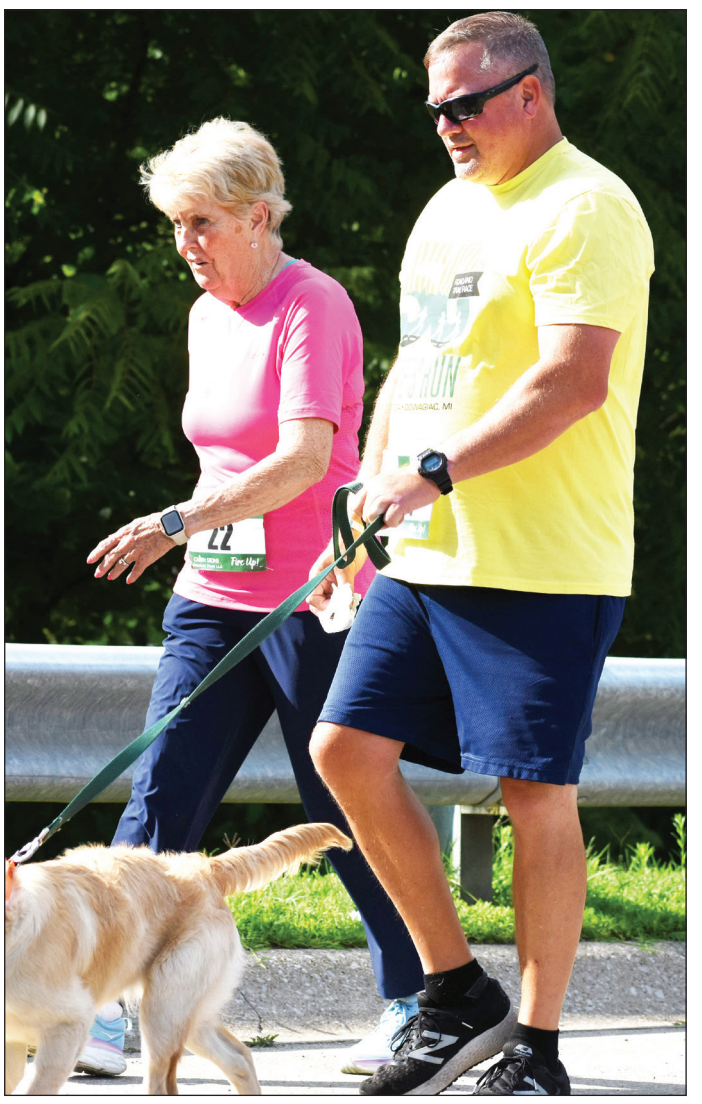
"Like to thank all our sponsors, volunteers, participants, and the entire Diamond Lake community and the village of Cassopolis for supporting us," Fazzini said.

Chettleburgh completed the 500-yard swim in a time of 8:05, the 12-mile bike ride in 29:37 and the 3.3-mile run in 20:29.

See TRIATHLON, page B2

SCOTT NOVAK and MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

Buchanan's Liam McBeth and Ashton Smedley (right) cross the finish line together at the 50th annual Steve's Run. Agnes Hasler, of South Bend, was the women's 5K winner.



Buchanan duo finishes first, second at Steve's Run

50th annual road race draws large crowd

By MAXWELL HARDEN and SCOTT NOVAK
scott.novak@leaderpub.com

DOWAGIAC — A pair of Buchanan juniors-to-be finished first and second at the 50th annual Steve's Run in downtown Dowagiac last Friday night.

Ashton Smedley and Liam McBeth crossed the finish line hand-in-hand, with Smedley taking first place in the 5K with a time of 18:35 and McBeth the runner-up with a clocking of 18:36.

Carlos Cruz placed third (18:47) and David Jones fourth (19:11).

Another Buchanan runner, Jacob Kuntz was fifth with a time of 19:28.

Agnes Hasler, a South Bend Adams sophomore, was the women's overall winner with a time of 22:41.

Konnor Ray won the men's 10K with a clocking of 36:48. Emily Shepherd was the women's winning with a time of 48:19.

Smedley will be competing for the Bucks for the first time this fall after moving from California. The Smedley name is family to not only Buchanan fans, but southwest Michigan as well. Michael Smedley, who finished ninth overall, and Megan Smedley dominated cross country and in track and field for the Bucks.

"We were communicating throughout the whole race," Ashton Smedley said. "At the end, we decided to hold hands to get a great picture through the finish. It feels good to have a great community out here."

"It was hot. The hills in the back were tough, but we did well," McBeth said. "I just went out and ran, and we ended up being in the front, and we said, 'all right, let's finish this.'"

Hasler enjoyed the Steve's Run experience.

"It was wonderful," she said. "It was a great course. It was up and down and hilly, but I got through it. I honestly didn't know it was going to happen. I was at mile two and this guy goes 'you're the first girl right now, way to go' and now here we are. It was a great honor."

Nearly 300 runners participated in Steve's Run, which benefits cancer research and scholarships.

Southwestern Michigan College President Joe Odenwald, who in his seventh year, continues to be impressed with the support the event received, not only in Dowagiac, but throughout southwest Michigan and northern Indiana.

"We're very grateful," he said. "You think about something that's been going on for 50 years, it's amazing. There's a lot of families that come back every year that do this and that's really an amazing story. I've been here seven years and to see people come back — it's kind of a reunion every year. I think it's neat to see several of the Dowagiac Union High School classes pairing their

See STEVE'S RUN, page B2

COLLEGE ATHLETICS

SMC teams, athletes earn all-academic honors

COMMUNITY NEWS

DOWAGIAC — The NJCAA announced their 2023-2024 All-Academic Teams today, and the SMC Roadrunners are well-represented.

Nineteen student-athletes were named to the three teams for their performance in the classroom. To qualify as First Team, students must earn a 4.00 GPA, Second Team is 3.80-3.99 GPA and Third Team is 3.60-3.79 GPA.

NJCAA All-Academic First Team: Abi Marquis (Volleyball), Taylor Miller (Volleyball) and Tori Yates (Women's CC).

NJCAA All-Academic Second Team: Emma Beckman (Volleyball), Sophia Deeds (Volleyball), Anna Johnson (Volleyball), Micah Ordway (Men's CC), Morgan Piezcynski (Women's CC), Carlie Ritchie (Volleyball), Juliette Schroeder (Volleyball), Riley Sinkler (Women's CC) and Kierstyn Thompson (Women's CC).

NJCAA All-Academic Third Team: Charlee Balcom (Women's BB), Emilee Demski (Volleyball), Amanda Jones (Volleyball), Macey Laubach (Women's BB), Taylor Meier (Women's CC), John Sanderson (Men's CC) and Cameron Thomas (Women's BB).

KELLY SWEENEY | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

Michael Chettleburgh (above) won the men's title at the Diamond Lake Triathlon. At right, a runner in the sprint relay heads out on the 3.3 mile run.

TRIATHLON

Continued from page B1

Stace Tucker was second with a time of 1:01.10, while Kelly Ball was third with a clock of 1:03.03.

Rounding out the top five were Zachary Root (1:04.01) and Gavin Ferlic (1:04.5)

Bolt completed the swim with a time of 8:15, the bike ride in 32:15 and the run in 22:44.

Ashley McCuen was second with an overall time of 1:10.07, while Ellen Longcor was third with a clocking of 1:18.17.

Jamie Govert placed fourth (1:19.13) and Stephanie Gardner fifth (1:19.54).

Team Surf Internet won the relay with a time of 1:11.31. Team 3 Boys 1 Cup was second (1:17.29) and Team Waz2024 was third (1:17.34).

New in 2024 was the 500-yard swim.

Elizabeth McKinley was the inaugural winner with a time of11:45. Kristine Simons was second with a 13:14 and Donna Coffey third with a 14:45.

STEVE'S RUN

Continued from page B1

reunions with it — I think it's special."

Odenwald thanked everyone involved with putting on the race.

"I think it's a great thing and we hope to see it live on and support such great causes like cancer research and the Steven Briegel Scholarship," he said. "I can't say enough about our sponsors and the Chamber of Commerce and all of their help for making this happen."

DAILY DATA

RUNNING
Steve's Run 5K
At Dowagiac
Male Overall
Ashton Smedley 18:35

Female Overall
Agnes Hasler 22:41

Top 10
Ashton Smedley 18:35
Liam McBeth 18:36
Carlos Cruz 18:47
David Jones 19:11
Jacob Kuntz 19:28
Matthew Morrow 20:02
Nate Hannah 20:05
Cole Danaher 20:06
Michael Smedley 20:20
Justin Mangus 20:33

Age Division Winners
14 and Under
I. Lorenz 26:44
15-19
Amelia Hurst 24:25
20-29
Allison Lauri 25:05
30-39
Sarah Lorenz 26:41
40-49
Tia Lillie 26:59
50-59
Nancy Leonard 29:25
60-69
Stacy Grimm 40:06
70 and Over
Mona Lee Hostetter 40:09

Male Age Division Winners
14 and Under
Elias Baldwin 21:37
15-19
Liam McBeth 18:36
20-29
David Jones 19:11
30-39
Abraham Richey 24:09
40-49
Matthew Morrow 20:02
50-59
Ashton Smedley 18:36
60-69
Clarence Grimm 26:09
70 and Over
Jerry Fergason 36:02

Steve's Run 10K
Overall Male
Konnor Ray 36:48

Overall Female
Emily Shepherd 48:19

Top 10
Konnor Ray 36:48
Jackson Sanford 37:44
Jacob Timmons 38:48
Joshua Bosstel 38:56
Adam Dohm 41:01
Braden Bachmann 41:56
Max Howk 42:34
John Arndt 44:08
Eli Shane 44:19
Rhys Sebasty 44:27

Female Age Division Winners
14 and Under
E. Bussler 1:41:30
15-19
Adyson Baker 53:17
30-39
Sara Fritz 1:06:24
40-49
Feona Arndt 1:05:55
50-59
Stephanie Lear 1:06:09
60-69
Sandy Ryan 1:02.36

Male Age Division Winners
14 and Under
Eli Shane 44:19
15-19
Jackson Sanford 37:44
20-29
Jacob Timmons 38:48
30-29
Matthew Byers 48:29
40-49
Adam Dohm 41:01
50-59
John Arndt 44:08
60-69
Stephen Breen 57:58
70 and Over
Steve LaCluyse 1:00.22

Diamond Lake Triathlon
At Cassopolis
Sprint Triathlon
Male Top 10
Michael Chettleburgh 59:24
Stacy Tucker 1:01.10
Kelly Ball 1:03.03
Zachary Root 1:04.01
Gavin Ferlic 1:04.5
Samuel Felton 1:04.09
Matthew Hauck 1:06.40
Patrick O'Brien 1:07.51
Daniel Powers 1:08.55

Female Top 10
Lori Bolt 1:05.20
Ashley McCuen 1:10.07
Ellen Longcor 1:18.17
Jamie Govert 1:19.13
Stephanie Gardner 1:19.54
Antonia Hiland 1:19.58
Mary Mulcrone 1:20.10
Maggie Cressy 1:21.08
Abigail Dutcher 1:21.12
Jenny Kaminski 1:22.33

Male Age Group Winners
1-19
Isaac Elledge 1:21.39
20-24
Quinn Kennedy 1:25.17
25-29
Patrick O'Brien 1:07.51
30-34
Samuel Felton 1:04.09
35-39
Zachary Root 1:04.01
40-44
Gavin Ferlic 1:04.05
45-49
Matthew Hauck 1:06.40
50-54
Danny Balos 1:09.39
55-59
Michael Warner 1:11.23
60-64
Todd Rothi 1:32.09
65-69
Jeff Garr 1:14.55
70-74
Daniel Govert 1:29.57
70 and Over
Ken Yoder 1:41.20
Clydesdale
Doug Stpeters 1:35.28

Female Age Group Winners
1-19
Brynn Cupp 1:19.26
20-24
Antonia Hiland 1:19.58
30-34
Maddie Toth 1:17.49
35-39
Ellen Longcor 1:18.17
40-44
Stephanie Gardner 1:19.54
45-49
Jamie Govert 1:19.13
50-54
Tori Nguyen 1:34.43
55-59
Jenny Kaminski 1:22,33
60-64
Tamara Shuler 1:16.47
65-69
Mary Mulcrone 1:20.10
70-74
Joanne Miller 1:51.21

Sprint Swim
Elizabeth McKinley 11:45
Kristine Simons 13:14
Donna Coffey 14:45

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Preference given to applicants whose income is below
$17,750 for 1 person;
$20,440 – 2 persons;
$25,820 – 3 persons;
$31,200 – 4 persons.
Call **269-273-7841** for info or to request an application.
Equal Housing Opportunity

FOR RENT
1 BEDROOM APARTMENT
269-462-1515.

Karl King Holdings,LLC
"Where The City's Finest Call Home"
NOW LEASING!!!
•Pet Friendly
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•Income-Based Rent
Apartments for Independent Seniors(62-up, handicap/disabled)
515 E.Monroe Street
South Bend,IN 46601
574-282-2896
TTY:1-800-743-3333
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Standard & Accessible Units Now Available
One bedroom independent living apartments available for older adults (62 and older) & physically handicapped (55 and older).
Annual income not to exceed $33,800 for couples and $29,550 for single. Rent based on 30% of net income. Rent includes heat, electric, water, trash, satellite TV, and a/c.
For more information, contact Sheryl DeRyder, Manager
Stone Lake Woods, Inc.
335 W. State St.
Cassopolis, MI
269-445-8040
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Wanted To Rent

Looking for Large Storage Space in Niles or Buchanan Area. All items are clean, no junk. Call (269)262-0162

Transportation

Automobiles

2020 Hyundai Elantra-Red
68,000 Miles.
Only $750 down!
$325 a month! No Interest!
No banks!
We do all our financing in house!
Call Scarlett Auto Sales today and ask about stock #1892!
269-461-4197

2021 Kia Forte-Grey
17,394 Miles.
Only $750 down!
$325 a month!
No Interest! No banks!
We do all our financing in house!
Call Scarlett Auto Sales today and ask about stock # 1903!
Call 269-461-4197

FOR SALE: 2017 Ford Fusion
106,000 miles
One owner, well-take care of
$13,000 OBO
(269)635-1777

Boats & Watercraft

14ft Starcraft Deep V, 8 HP Mercury Motor,
Trolling Motor, Trailer, accessories-$2,800 OBO
269-861-9489

1979 Starcraft 18' Aluminum Deep V 110hp Johnson & Trailer (269)683-2400

2015 Polar Kraft TX 165 Bass Fishing Boat
Boat has very low mileage. Seller mainly used the trolling motor. Didn't have much time for fishing. Price is for boat, Trailmaster trailer, trolling motor, Mercury BigFoot 60 HP boat motor and fish finder equipment.
If I do not answer, leave a message.
Pictures available via text.
$17,900.00 OBO.
574-850-1938
269-228-1216

Motorcycles & ATV's

1999 Kawasaki Voyager 12 Touring Bike New Carlisle Area. Good condition. 80k road miles. $2,000 firm. Call 574-220-4275 or 574-234-8038

Services

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Licensed & Insured
44 Years Experience

Have a driveway that lasts! Protect your investment!
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House calls, Free estimates.
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BRADY CONCRETE
Specializing in:
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•Seawalls•Pole Barn Floors
•Stamped Concrete
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Free Estimates, Insured
Fast, Dependable Service
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269-591-0100

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All your Masonry needs!
Chimney Cleaning
Insured & Bonded
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Joe Hess Remodeling and Construction
Over 25 yrs Experience
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269-684-0349-Home

•Replacement Windows
•Exterior Doors
•Storm Doors
•Minor Electric
•Light Fixtures
•Minor Plumbing
•Most Home Repairs

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Txt/Call: 574-904-8760
useamericantrash.com

Lawn Care & Landscaping

Galloway Landscaping
Mow, edge, weed-whack, prune, mulch, plant, clean-up, etc.
Senior discount.
Call Shawn 574-347-7757

Selling your home?
Advertise here and sell it faster.
Call Classifieds at 269-591-6105.

Miscellaneous Services

AUCTION
Perry Moving Auction: firearms, motorcycles, Ford Escape, Ram 4x4 Pickup, welder w/ attachments, machining tools, more! Bid live 8/3/2024, 10 a.m. 516 Brandon St., Owosso 48867. Online Absentee Bidding at NarhiAuctions.com. 810-266-6474.

Public Farm Equipment Online Auction, Aug. 14, 8 a.m. Tractors, trailers, farm equipment, snow mobile, wood splitter, welder, sand blaster cabinet, generator, more! CrydermanAuctions.com to view catalog, other auctions. Call 586-784-8890.

Murphy Online Auction bidding open. Cub Cadet riding mower, EZ-Go golf cart, trailer, lawn equipment, tools, crossbow, camping, more! Bid Anywhere, anytime @JohnPeckAuctions.com. Call John Peck 989-426-8061. Offices Gladwin & Charlotte.

Frost Estate Online Auction through Aug. 5. John Deere JD 300 backhoe/loader, Massey Ferguson 180 diesel tractor, boom sprayer, farm implements, chain fall log splinter, antiques, more. Visit Bid.SherwoodAuctionServiceLLC.com. Call 1-800-835-0495.

BUILDINGS
BUILT RITE POLE BUILDINGS State-wide. Prices starting at - 24x40x10 - $18,300.00. 30x40x10 -$20,400.00. Erected on your site. Call for price not shown on any size building or go to www.builtritepolebuildingsmi.com. Or call 989-259-2015 or 989-600-1010.

BUSINESS SERVICES
METAL ROOFING regular and shingle style, HALF OFF SPECIAL COLORS! Lifetime hail asphalt shingles. Vinyl siding. Licensed and insured builders for 40 years. AMISH CREW. 800-983-0462.

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Adjustable Bed Brand New with mattress. Made is U.S.A., in plastic, with warranty. Retail cost $3,995.00, sacrifice for $875.00. Call for showing or delivery: DanDanTheMattressMan.com 989-832-1866

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Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase* Call 1-855-922-0420 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material – steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available.

Wanted: Bookkeeper

Part-time, 12 to 16 hours per week, bookkeeping position. Areas of responsibility include fund accounting, accounts payable, accounts receivable, cost center reconciliation, cash balance bank reconciliation, payroll and tax withholding, budget analysis and preparation, account revenue and expenditure balancing. Qualifications should include at least two years of related work experience. Computer Programs used are: BS&A, Word, Excel. Excellent PC skills and experience in accounting software systems is necessary.
Good people skills are essential.
Oronoko Charter Township is an equal opportunity employer.
Please submit your resume to
Oronoko Charter Township Clerk.
PO Box 214, Berrien Springs, MI 49103;
clerk@oronokotownship.org.
Deadline is July 26, 2024.

JOB OPENING

DPS Operations Superintendent

The City of Dowagiac is accepting applications for the Department of Public Services Operations Superintendent. This position supervises, directs, and coordinates all work activities associated with all Parks/Grounds Streets, Cemetery, and Water/Sewer services; provides reports, recommendations, and support regarding crew activities and the City's infrastructure; and works with the Director of Public Services to manage various projects and activities, including monitoring labor, equipment, and material budgets.

Major duties include organizing, managing, scheduling and implementing maintenance, repair, construction, and operations activities related to city streets; solid waste collection (leaves, brush, lawn debris); city buildings and facilities; water distribution infrastructure; sanitary sewer collection infrastructure; storm sewer and drainage infrastructure; city parks, grounds, and lands; cemetery operations and maintenance; and various other assigned projects and activities related to the city's property, facilities, and infrastructure. Duties also include professional, courteous, and responsive interaction and communication with employees and the public.

Must possess a Bachelor degree or equivalent experience in a field related to public services. Must have knowledge of and experience with construction methods, materials and equipment related to public service activities. Certifications in Water and Sewer Operations preferred. high school diploma (or equivalent). Must have a valid Driver's License, Commercial Driver's License (Class B) preferred.

Salaried position, $60,444-$78,578 DOQ.

Applications will be accepted until August 16, 2024. Candidates are encouraged to apply online at www.cityofdowagiac.com (all online applications must include a cover letter and resume) or they may choose to email their cover letter and resume directly to Amanda Sleigh, Assistant City Manager/HR Director, at acm@dowagiac.org.

The City of Dowagiac is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, gender, age, national origin or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Miscellaneous Services

Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer – 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-888-718-1856

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-844-369-2501

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-844-587-8518

Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-877-691-4117 today!

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PROFESSIONAL LAWN SERVICE: Fertilization, weed control, seeding, aeration and mosquito control. Call now for a free quote. Ask about our first application special! 1-877-411-0998

Prepare for power outages with Briggs & Stratton PowerProtect(TM) standby generators - the most powerful home standby generators available. Industry-leading comprehensive warranty – 7 years ($849 value.) Proudly made in the U.S.A. Call Briggs & Stratton 1-855-303-4767.

Want a greener lawn? TruGreens your go-to for a tailored lawn care plan. Act now and get 50% off your first service with a purchase of an annual plan. Call us at 1-855-608-1458 to learn more

Acculevel. Your foundation repair and basement waterproofing experts. Whether basement, crawl space or concrete slab we'll guide you on the right path to a healthy home. Act now! Up to $600

Miscellaneous Services

off. Restrictions apply. Call for a free consultation. 1-844-700-4986

GoGo. Live and age your way. Get help with rides, groceries, meals and more. Memberships start as low as $1 per day. Available 24/7 nationwide. BBB Rated A+ Business. Call GoGo to get started. 1-888-494-2999

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Interior & Exterior Jobs
30 years experience
Reasonable Rates
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J&H POWER WASHING
HOUSES, DRIVEWAYS, DECKS, FENCING, RV'S/MOTOR HOMES.
WHY CALL THE REST WHEN YOU CAN CALL THE BEST?
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Lifetime Warranty on All Labor Performed
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Lifetime Warranty Shingles
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Call (269) 684-7199

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GRIMES TREE SERVICE
SPECIALIZING IN STORM DAMAGE CLEANUP AND REMOVAL OF DANGEROUS TREES IN DIFFICULT LOCATIONS.
269-783-6493 OR 269-716-0241.
53 YEARS EXPERIENCE!
"A+ REFERENCES"

Public Notices

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Auction
63626 M 62
Cassopolis, MI
on 7/24/24 @ 8 A.M.
Wallace 24 HR Towing, LLC will have the following vehicles up for auction:
2002 Pontiac Sunfire
2006 Nissan Quest
2004 Chevy Suburban
2011 Nissan Versa
2013 Chevy Silverado

Dowagiac Daily News:
July 27, 2024
AV/02 PONTIAC

PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

Re.: Elsa Benson, Inc.
Notice is given to creditors of the dissolution of Elsa Benson, Inc., a Michigan corporation (the "Corporation"), effective as of July 12, 2024, as a result of filing of a Certificate of Dissolution for the Corporation with the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs,Corporations, Securities &Commercial Licensing Bureau. Persons with claims against the Corporation should present them in accordance with this Notice to the following:
David M. Schoenherr, Attorney
Burke, Warren, MacKay & Seritella, P.C. 330 N. Wabash, 21 st Floor Chicago, IL 60611
(312) 840-7041
Pursuant to Section 450.1842a of the Michigan Business Corporation Act, any claim against the Corporation will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within one (1) year after the publication date of this Notice.

Dowagiac Daily News:
July 27, 2024
DISSOLUTION

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 6, 2024 SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP:
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PRIMARY ELECTION WILL BE HELD IN SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP ON TUESDAY AUGUST 6th, 2024.
THE POLLS WILL OPEN AT 7:00 AM UNTIL 8:00 PM AT THE SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP HALL, 32764 DIXON ST, DOWAGIAC MI.
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE of the following items on the ballot:
Partisan Candidates on the ballot include: United Sates Senator, Representative in Congress 5th District; State Representative in State Legislature 37th District; County: Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff, Clerk & Register of Deeds, Treasurer, Drain Commissioner, Surveyor, County Commissioner 1st District; Township: Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer, Trustees; Delegates to County Convention
Proposals on the ballot include:
Renewal – Drug Enforcement Millage (0.4751 mill);
Renewal – Services to Older Citizens (0.9827 mill);
Eau Claire Public Schools General obligation unlimited tax bond proposal for building and site purposes in the amount of not to exceed $7,800,000. Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Eau Claire Public Schools, 6190 West Main Street, Eau Claire, Michigan 49111, telephone: (269) 461-6947.
You may obtain a full listing of the list of candidates and the full proposal language from: County Clerk's Office, 120 N. Broadway, Cassopolis, Michigan or call (269) 445-4464,
Silver Creek Township Clerk, 32764 Dixon, Dowagiac, MI or call 269-424-3025 x4,
or on display at the Silver Creek Township Hall, 32764 Dixon, Dowagiac, MI,
or online at https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/.
All electors who are registered with the township clerk in the township in which they reside are eligible to vote at this election, Sample ballots can be found at www.mi.gov/vote. To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions can be available in audio format or braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions can be obtained by contacting the township clerk in advance of the election.
Jessica Honn, Silver Creek Township Clerk
32764 Dixon St.
Dowagiac MI 49047
269-424-3025 x4

Dowagiac Daily News:
July 27, 2024
ELECTION

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF FILING OF ORDER DESIGNATING A DRAINAGE DISTRICT

Notice is Hereby Given, that I, **Jeff Van Belle**, Drain Commissioner of the County of Cass, did, on the 7 th day of July 2024, file in the office of the Drain Commissioner an Order Designating a Drainage District for the **Shavehead Lake Drain #93**, according to Act No. 40, Public Acts of Michigan 1956, as amended.
The route and course of the proposed Drain is as follows:
The route and course of the proposed Drain is described as follows: Beginning at the connection with the existing Shavehead Lake in section 30 Porter Township, following the existing stream bed westerly crossing South Drive continuing into the SE corner of section 24 of Calvin Township continuing northwesterly crossing Union Road continuing northwesterly following the stream bed ending just south of Mount Zion St.
The drain described above includes and benefits lands in Porter and Calvin Township, which will be subject to assessment at-large. Additional municipalities included and benefited by the drain are Cass County, Cass County Road Commission.
The Lands comprised within the Drainage District are as follows:
LAND BEING A PART OF SECTIONS 24, 25 IN TOWN 7 SOUTH, RANGE 14 WEST, AND SECTION 30 IN TOWN 7/8 SOUTH RANGE 13 WEST BEGINNING AT THE SHORE OF SHAVEHEAD LAKE AND TERMINATING SOUTH OF MOUNT ZION STREET.
Dated this 7th day of July , 2024
So ordered: Jeff Van Belle Cass County Drain Commissioner

Dowagiac Daily News:
July 27,2024
NOTICE OF FILING

PUBLIC NOTICE

SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS VARIANCE REQUEST, PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING NOTICE

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SILVER CREEK, CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Silver Creek Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing and meeting on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, commencing at 7:00 p.m. at the Silver Creek Township Hall, 32764 Dixon Street, Dowagiac, MI 49047, within the Township.
PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the item(s) to be considered at said meeting are as follows:
• The request of property owner Gerald Martin ("applicant") regarding the property at 31652 South Lakeshore Drive, Dowagiac, MI 49047 (Parcel No. 14-130-190-032-00) in the "WD" Waterfront Residential District Zoning Classification to replace the existing 8' x 10' shed in the rear yard (Lakeshore Drive side) of the property with a new 12' x 24' shed. The applicant is seeking a 4' variance from the 7' side yard setback requirement contained in Section 6.04 of the Township Zoning Ordinance to locate the shed 3' from the west property line. Standards of review for consideration by the Zoning Board of Appeals are contained in Section 18.04 of the Silver Creek Township Zoning Ordinance.
• Such other and further matters as may properly come before the zoning board of appeals.
Anyone interested in reviewing the application for the above variance request or the Township Zoning Ordinance may examine a copy of the same at the Silver Creek Township Hall during regular business hours of regular business days hereafter until noon on the date of the hearing and may further examine the same at said public hearing/meeting. The Township Zoning Ordinance is also accessible via internet at www.silvercreektwpmi.org.
Written comments will be received from any interested persons concerning the foregoing by the Silver Creek Township Clerk at the Township Hall at any time during regular business hours up to the date of the hearing and may be further received by the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing.
All interested persons are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place.
Silver Creek Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed material being considered at the hearing, to individuals with disabilities at the hearing upon four (4) days' notice to the Silver Creek Township Clerk. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Silver Creek Township Clerk at the address or telephone number listed below.
SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
By: Jess Honn, Township Clerk
32764 Dixon St.
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(269) 424-3025
www.silvercreektwpmi.org

Dowagiac Daily News:
July 27, 2024
HEARING

PUBLIC NOTICE

RESOLUTION TO ABANDON A PORTION OF THE VILLAGE OF CORY IN THE TOWNSHIP OF NEWBERG CASS COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION COUNTY OF CASS, MICHIGAN

WHEREAS, this Board has heretofore received a petition submitted pursuant to Act 283, Public Acts of Michigan, 1909, as amened, for the abandonment of a portion of the Village of Cory, located in Section 36 of Newberg Township, Cass County, Michigan:
Those parts of South Front Street, Short Street, Second Street, Third Street, and South Street located west of and adjacent to lots 19 thru 64.
and
WHEREAS, the petition was signed by not less than seven freeholders of the township;
WHEREAS, this Board has considered the necessity and advisability of abandoning that portion of the streets in the Village of Cory as indicated in the petition.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board hereby declares and determines that it is in the best interest of the public to abandon the following:
Those parts of South Front Street, Short Street, Second Street, Third Street, and South Street located west of and adjacent to lots 19 thru 64, in the Village of Cory, Newberg Township, Cass County Michigan.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Managing Director of the Road Commission is hereby authorized and directed to publish notice of the abandonment of said portion of the Village of Cory, as required by statute, and to file a certified copy of this resolution with the Cass County Register of Deeds, and with the township, the Michigan Department of Treasury, and to file full record and return of these proceedings with the Michigan State Transportation Commission,
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions and part of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the hereby are rescinded.
AYES: 5
NAYS: 0
By: Chairperson
By: Terri Wyman, Clerk

Dowagiac Daily News:
July 20, 27 and Aug. 3, 2024
RESOLUTION

Do you have available jobs?
Call 269-591-6105 to let others know about job opportunities at your business.

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Cass County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on August 7, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): John D Porter, Jr, an unmarried man
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Lake Michigan Credit Union
Date of Mortgage: January 8, 2021
Date of Mortgage Recording: January 29, 2021
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $111,308.51
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Village of Marcellus, Cass County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 113 and 114, Worden and Shillito's Addition to the Village of Marcellus, according to plat of record in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Cass County, Michigan in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 21.
Common street address (if any): 585 S Maple St, Marcellus, MI 49067-8502
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: July 6, 2024
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145 Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1534399
(07-06)(07-27)

Dowagiac Daily News:
July 6, 13, 20, and 27 2024
1534399 PORTER

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY PROBATE ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION/POSTING AND NOTICE OF ACTION CASE NO. 24-223-CZ

Court Address: Law & Courts Building, 60296 M-62, Cassopolis, MI 49031

COUNTRY VIEW MHC LLC (PLAINTIFF)
KRISTIN A. DAVIS, P77139 (PLAINTIFFS ATTORNEY)
V.
KASSONDRA BENSON

TO: Kassondra Benson
IT IS ORDERED:
You are being sued in this court by the plaintiff to obtain a declaratory judgment regarding ownership of a mobile home which you hold title to. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before 8/31/24. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complain filed in this case.

Dowagic Daily News:
July 20, 27 and Aug. 3 2024
24-223-CZ

LEGAL NOTICE

TO ALL PERSONS, including: whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: Megan Rae Hooker has filed a petition for name change. A name change hearing will be held on Monday, August 26, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at via Zoom with Cass County Probate Court, 60296 M-62, Courtroom 20, Cassopolis, Michigan 49031 before Judge Carol M. Bealor (P57068) to change the name of: Megan Rae Hooker to Alex Rae Hooker-Roby

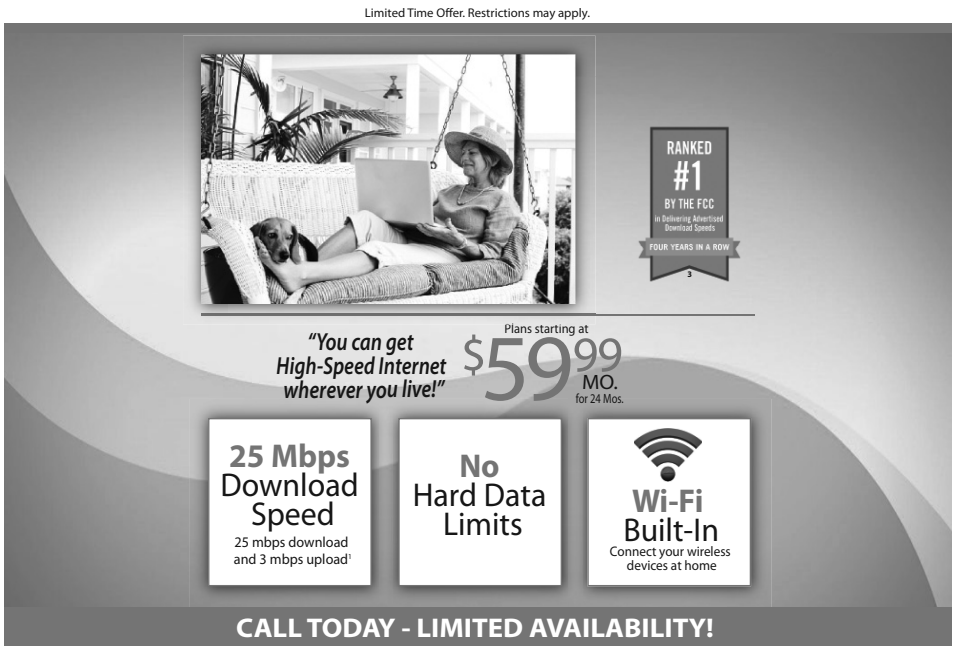
Dowagic Daily News:
July 27, 2024
NAME CHANGE

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - CASS COUNTY

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit

Finally! Satellite Internet With No Hard Data Limits!
And **FREE** Standard Installation![2]
Limited Time Offer. Restrictions may apply.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FOUR YEARS IN A ROW
3
"You can get High-Speed Internet wherever you live!"
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Connect your wireless devices at home
CALL TODAY - LIMITED AVAILABILITY!

1-877-271-3236 HughesNet AUTHORIZED RETAILER

HughesNet is a registered trademark of Hughes Network Systems, LLC, an EchoStar Company.
1 The HughesNet Gen5 service plans are designed to deliver download speeds of 25 Mbps and upload speeds of 3 Mbps, but individual customers may experience different speeds at different times of the day. Speeds and uninterrupted use are not guaranteed and may vary based on a variety of factors including: the configuration of your computer, the number of concurrent users, network or Internet congestion, the capabilities and content of the Websites you are accessing, network management practices as deemed necessary, and other factors. When you connect to the HughesNet service using Wi-Fi, your experience will vary based on your proximity to the Wi-Fi source and the strength of the signal.
2. **Free standard installation** applies to new Lease subscribers only. Not valid with Purchase option. Limited-time offer. Restrictions may apply.
3. Per the "5th, 6th, 7th and 8th FCC Measuring Broadband American Reports." Go to: https://www.hughes.com/who-we-are/resources/press-releases/
- Minimum term required. Monthly service and early termination fees apply. Visit legal.HughesNet.com for details.
- HughesNet is a registered trademark of Hughes Network Systems, LLC, an EchoStar Company.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF ELECTION
CALVIN, JEFFERSON, LAGRANGE, PENN TOWNSHIPS, CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN
AUGUST 6, 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF CALVIN, JEFFERSON, LAGRANGE AND PENN TOWNSHIPS:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PRIMARY ELECTION WILL BE HELD IN CALVIN, JEFFERSON, LAGRANGE & PENN TOWNSHIPS ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2024. THE POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM 7:00 AM TO 8:00 PM AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Calvin Township
18727 Mt. Zion Rd.
Cassopolis, MI 49031

Jefferson Township
24725 Jefferson Center St.
Cassopolis, MI 49031

LaGrange Twp.(Cass Central Fire Dept)
23201 M-60
Cassopolis, MI 49031

Penn Township
60717 S. Main St.
Vandalia, MI 49095

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the electors of Calvin, Jefferson, LaGrange and PennTownships will be voting for the offices of State Senator, Representative in State Legislature, County Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff, Clerk & Register of Deeds, Treasurer, Drain Commissioner, Surveyor and County Commissioners 3rd, 5th & 8th District, Township Board (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and Trustees), Delegates to County Convention and on the following proposals:

● CCDET - Renewal of the 0.4751 mill levy on all property for four years to be used in support of law enforcement, criminal justice and public safety.

● COA - Renewal of 0.9827 mill levy on all property for four years to be used for services to older citizens.

Full text of the ballot proposals may be obtained at the Calvin, Jefferson,LaGrange & Penn Township Clerks offices listed above. A sample ballot may be viewed at mi.gov/vote.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ALL ELECTIONS; REGISTERED VOTERS MAY CONTACT THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION FOR AN ABSENT VOTER BALLOT.

To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats can be made by contacting the township clerk in advance of the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodation should contact the clerk's office.

Jennifer Brunner	Michelle Anderson	Tasha E. McCoy	Chelsa Greathouse
Jefferson Township Clerk	*Calvin Township Clerk*	*LaGrange Township Clerk*	*Penn Township Clerk*
(269) 445-3931 x 7	(269) 476-2620	(269) 233-4004	(574) 903-0826

Legal Notices

court in Cass County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on August 07, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Noel Conley and Sharon Conley, husband and wife Original Mortgagee: Green Tree Financial Servicing Corporation Date of mortgage: May 9, 1998 Recorded on June 18, 1998, Liber 666, on Page 340, and re-recorded via Re-Recorded Mortgage on February 10, 2000, Liber 725, on Page 835, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, for Manufactured Housing Contract Senior/Subordinate Pass-Through Certificate Trust 1998-8 Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Fifty-Five Thousand Four Hundred Eighteen and 49/100 Dollars ($55,418.49) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Cass County, and described as: Beginning 726 feet North and 336 feet East at right angles from the southwest corner of the East half of the southwest quarter of section 33, Town 7 South, Range 15 West, thence continuing East 423 feet to the center line of the M-62 Highway, thence North 41 degrees 56 minutes East along said center line 87 feet, thence North 48 degrees 4 minutes West 342.5 feet, thence South 37 degrees 38 minutes West 370.7 feet to beginning. Commonly known as 67838 M62, Edwardsburg, MI 49112 The redemption period will be 12 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, for Manufactured Housing Contract Senior/Subordinate Pass-Through Certificate Trust 1998-8 Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400 1534481 (07-06)(07-27)

Dowagiac Daily News: July 6, 13, 20, and 27 2024
1534481 CONLEY

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT CASS COUNTY NOTICE TO CREDITORS DECEDENT'S ESTATE CASE NO. 2024-0173-DE

Estate of Lewis Gene Miller
Date of birth:* 05/12/1952
TO ALL CREDITORS:**
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Lewis Gene Miller, died 02/29/2024
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Mary Schori, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 60296 M. 62 STE 10 Cassopolis, MI 49031 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

July 22, 2024

Rachel Hope Miller P85812
201 S. Main Street South Bend, IN 46601 574-784-1019

Mary Schori
19565 Old Ridge Rd. South Bend IN 46614 274-286-3524

Dowagiac Daily News:
July 27, 2024
EST/MILLER, L

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - FAMILY DIVISION CASS COUNTY PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING REGARDING PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE CASE NO. and JUDGE 2024-077-NC Hon. Carol M. Bealor

In the matter of Amanda Marie Nystrom

TO ALL PERSONS, including: whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: Amanda Marie Nystrom has filed a petition for name change.
A name change hearing will be held on Monday, July 29, 2024 at 9:15 a.m. at 60296 M-62, Cassopolis, MI 49031 (Via Zoom) before Judge Carol M. Bealor to change the name of: Amanda Marie Nystrom to Amanda Marie Praklet

Dowagiac Daily News:
July 27, 2024
NC/NYSTROM

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT Cass COUNTY NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate CASE NO. and JUDGE 2024-102-DE

Court address Law & Courts Building, 60296 M-62, Cassopolis, Michigan 49031
Court telephone no. 269/445-4454

Estate of Mary Lou Robinson
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Mary Lou Robinson, died 04/03/2024. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Michael Dean Goodrich, personal representative, or to both the probate court at Law & Court Building, 60296 M-62, Cassopolis, Michigan 49031 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
March 21, 2023

Michael Dean Goodrich
27920 J. Drive North Albion, Michigan 49224 517/630-1163

Thomas R. Betker, P55920, 511 Renaissance Drive, Suite 110, St. Joseph, Michigan 49085, 269/983-5777

Dowagiac Daily News:
July 27, 2024
EST/ROBINSON, M.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the Circuit Court in Cass County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on August 21, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Peggy Raschke, a Single Woman Original Mortgagee: Option One Mortgage Corporation Foreclosing Assignee: Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Asset Backed Securities Corporation Home Equity Loan Trust 2004-HE3, Asset Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-HE3 Date of Mortgage: March 2, 2004 Date of Mortgage Recording: March 5, 2004 Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of notice: $74,731.74 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the Township of Howard, Cass County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot Number 1, Huntly Park Subdivision, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1-G of Plats, Page 328, Cass County Records on June 26, 1956. Commonly Known as: 1127 Huntly Rd., Niles, MI 49120 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Purchaser: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: 07/20/2024 Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 251 Diversion Street, Rochester, MI 48307 248-853-4400 314296

(07-20)(08-10)

Dowagiac Daily News: July 20, 27, Aug. 3 and 10, 2024
1535487 RASCHKE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Cass County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM on 8/28/2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Names of Mortgagor(s): Charles Morgan AKA Charles M. Morgan and Pamela Morgan. Original mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for First Republic Mortgage Corporation. Date of mortgage: 2/26/2009. Mortgage recorded on 3/4/2009 as Document No. 37594, in Liber 990, Page 1350. Foreclosing Assignee (if any): 1st Source Bank. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: $143,358.75 Mortgaged premises: Situated in Cass County, and described as: THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF HOWARD, CASS COUNTY, STATE OF MICHIGAN, AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: PART OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 7 SOUTH, RANGE 16 WEST, DESCRIBED AS: BEGINNING AT THE EAST QUARTER CORNER OF SECTION 19; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 47 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE EAST AND WEST QUARTER LINE OF SAID SECTION, 172.20 FEET; THENCE NORTH 253.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 47 MINUTES 40 SECONDS EAST 172.20 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF SECTION 19; THENCE SOUTH ALONG SAID EAST LINE, 253.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Commonly known as 1314 Thomson Road, Niles, MI 49120. The redemption period will be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days after the statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is determined abandoned under MCL 600.3241, the redemption period will be 1 month from the date of such sale. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes pursuant to MCL 600.3240(16), the redemption period is 1 year from the date of such sale. The redemption period may be extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Date of Notice: 07/27/2024. Codilis & Moody, P.C. 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100 Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (313) 536-2500. This law firm is a debt collector. C&M File 23-24-00184

(07-27)(08-17)

Dowagiac Daily News: July 27, Aug. 3, 10, and 17, 2024
1535761 MORGAN

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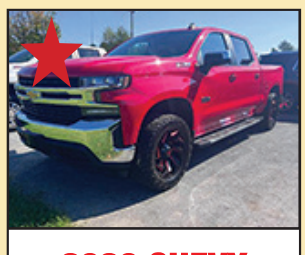

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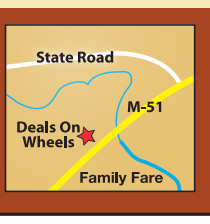

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2024 READER'S CHOICE CONTEST BEST of the BEST Leader Publications MICHIANA'S FAVORITE BUSINESSES

Located at 922 S 11th St. in the heart of Niles, the newly updated building with its distinctive red chimney is home to Red Shoe Realty. This new brokerage is making waves with its blend of traditional values and real estate expertise. Founded by Jennifer Inman, a dedicated realtor with nearly 20 years of experience in Southwest Michigan, Red Shoe Realty offers honest, professional service. Jen is proud to work alongside her mother, Nancy Scheetz, who has supported this vision for 11 years, and her daughter, Rachael Inman, making it a three-generation team.

A Growing Office

Red Shoe Realty quickly expanded with the addition of two more dedicated professionals, Cloe Mittan and Jamie Tolosa. Adding excitement, commitment and expertise to the team. This dynamic group works collaboratively to meet the diverse needs of the community and their clients.

The Story Behind the Name

The name "Red Shoe Realty" carries heartfelt meaning. Inspired by client gifts of stepping stones inscribed with "There's No Place Like Home," and evoking memories of Dorothy's red shoes from "The Wizard of Oz," the name symbolizes the company's dedication to guiding clients home and ensuring they always feel at home.

Red Shoe Realty
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Community

BEST PLACE TO WORK IN BUCHANAN
- Winner: Fernwood Botanical Garden
- Finalist: Honor Credit Union
- Finalist: Smoke Vision Care

BEST PLACE TO WORK IN CASSOPOLIS
- Winner: Honor Credit Union
- Finalist: Midwest Energy & Communications
- Finalist: The Twirl

BEST PLACE TO WORK IN DOWAGIAC
- Winner: Sister Lakes Brewing Company
- Finalist: Honor Credit Union
- Finalist: Lyons Industries Inc.

BEST PLACE TO WORK IN EDWARDSBURG
- Winner: Garver Grooming
- Finalist: Honor Credit Union
- Finalist: North American Forest Products

BEST PLACE TO WORK IN NILES
- Winner: Brentwood at Niles Senior Living
- Finalist: Honor Credit Union
- Finalist: Iron Shoe Distillery
- Finalist: Pizza Transit

CHURCH
- Winner: Hope Community Church
- Finalist: Granger Community Church
- Finalist: Summit Church

NON-PROFIT
- Winner: Fernwood Botanical Garden
- Finalist: Kari Cares Grief Support Center
- Finalist: Niles-Buchanan YMCA

Dining & Entertainment

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT VENUE
- Winner: Sister Lakes Brewing Company
- Finalist: Bee Crafty
- Finalist: Iron Shoe Distillery

ASIAN FOOD
- Winner: Ho Ping Garden
- Finalist: Hot Wok
- Finalist: Juicy Buffet

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BEST of the BEST
Realtors
922 S 11th St., Niles
Jennifer Inman
Nancy Scheetz
Rachael Inman
Jamie Tolosa
Cloë Mittan

THIS IS OUR HOME!

Thank you does not begin to cover the amount of appreciation that I have for everyone who voted for us.

My name is Stephenie Craft. I am the administrator at Riveridge in Niles, Mi. It is a privilege to be able to write this letter and acknowledge the staff and residents here.

It was an honor to just be nominated for "Best of the Best." Then to make it to the voting and place in the top three in both categories was a true testament to the staff and residents of our facility.

Riveridge has come a long way in a brief time. We have and are continuing to make many changes. Being nominated and then voted for acknowledges the impact that we are making in our community_and_within our facility.

For most facilities, the phrase "This is their home" is meant for the residents. They are the ones who live here. However, here at Rive ridge, we say "This is our home." Yes, the residents live here, but for most of us, we are here more than we are at home. The residents and staff members become part of our family. We cry when they cry and laugh when they laugh.

As with any family, we make mistakes. We are human. We learn from our mistakes and make the changes we need to make to keep everyone here safe, comfortable, and content. We are establishing new goals and driving the facility to a better future.

Because of your votes, I know we are headed in the right direction. We are planning several community activities that will include family members, residents, and staff. From cookouts and holidays to appreciation days and birthdays, we want to ensure that everyone enjoys their time here.

We have an amazing Rehabilitation program that has enhanced the going home experience for our short timers. We improved our dietary department and serve delicious meals that are healthy and meet the needs of all the residents. Our Social Worker is top notch and is in communication with home care agencies as well as community partners to make the return home easier and better. She collaborates with the long-term residents to improve their stay and makes the quality of life here at Riveridge the best it can be. The Nursing Staff is also_improving. We have an amazing wound program and have improved all around care for our residents.

I came to this facility in late November. In my short time here, I have seen so many improvements, not just with the staff but the building itself. The new maintenance director is amazing at what she does. We have plans to renovate the building and make it more homelike and comfortable for all who choose to call this place home. The changes happening at Riveridge are reflected in our residents. Whether they go out into the community or have a heavenly homecoming. Our improved care and aesthetics are making a difference for all who call this home.

This is our home! We take pride in the work that we do. Our love shows in the passion and dedication that shines through to our residents and the community that we live in and serve. Words cannot express how much your votes mean to us. Rive ridge is making changes and improving the quality of life for our residents, and you are seeing it.

Welcome to our home!! Should you ever need us, our doors are always open to you and yours.

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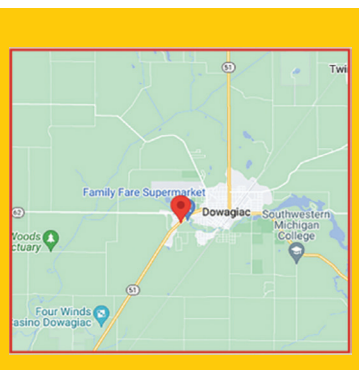

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BAKERY
- Winner: The Bakers Rhapsody
- Finalist: Cafe Italiano at The Sweet Shop
- Finalist: Divine Dough Co

BBQ
- Winner: Curly Q's BBQ
- Finalist: Jim's Smokin' Cafe
- Finalist: Sister Lakes Brewing Company

BEST PLACE TO BUY CHOCOLATE
- Winner: Veni's Sweet Shop
- Finalist: Caruso Candy & Soda Fountain Since 1922
- Finalist: South Bend Chocolate Cafe

BEST RESTAURANT IN CASSOPOLIS
- Winner: Lindy's Restaurant
- Finalist: Stone lake bar and grill
- Finalist: The Twirl

BEST RESTAURANT IN DOWAGIAC
- Winner: Sister Lakes Brewing Company
- Finalist: Oak and Ash BBQ & Catering
- Finalist: Wood Fire Trattoria

BEST RESTAURANT IN EDWARDSBURG
- Winner: Fat Cams at Garver Lake
- Winner: Flat Rock Grill
- Winner: Stacy's Food & Spirits

BEST RESTAURANT IN NILES
- Winner: Shoe Distillery
- Finalist: Pizza Transit
- Finalist: Pizza Transit

BREAKFAST
- Winner: Rise N Shine Cafe
- Finalist: 2nd & Main Coffeehouse
- Finalist: Prime Table Restaurant

BREWERY
- Winner: Sister Lakes Brewing Company
- Finalist: Niles Brewing Company
- Finalist: River Saint Joe

BURGER
- Winner: Iron Shoe Distillery
- Finalist: Old Tavern Inn
- Finalist: Sister Lakes Brewing Company

CANNABIS
- Winner: Twisted Bee
- Finalist: Green Stem Provisioning
- Finalist: Primitiv Group Niles

CASINO
- Winner: Four Winds Casino South Bend
- Finalist: Blue Chip Casino Hotel Spa
- Finalist: Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
- Finalist: Turtle Creek Casino & Hotel

CATERING
- Winner: Jim's Smokin' Cafe
- Finalist: Capri Italian Restaurant South Bend
- Finalist: SugarElla's Catering

COFFEE OR TEA
- Winner: 2nd & Main Coffeehouse
- Finalist: Apothica Teas
- Finalist: Brew Ha Ha

DESSERT
- Winner: Venis Sweet Shop
- Finalist: Capri Italian Restaurant South Bend
- Finalist: Iron Shoe Distillery

DISTILLERY
- Winner: Iron Shoe Distillery
- Finalist: Journeyman Distillery
- Finalist: The Indiana Whiskey Company

FAMILY RESTAURANT
- Winner: Sister Lakes Brewing Company
- Finalist: Iron Shoe Distillery
- Finalist: Pizza Transit

FRENCH FRIES
- Winner: Iron Shoe Distillery
- Finalist: Jays Lounge
- Finalist: Wings Etc.

GARDEN OR PARK
- Winner: Fernwood Botanical Garden
- Finalist: Potawatomi Zoo
- Finalist: Riverfront Park

GOLF COURSE
- Winner: Orchard Hills Country Club
- Finalist: Diamond Lake Golf Club
- Finalist: Plym Park Golf Course

ICE CREAM OR FROZEN YOGURT

- Winner: Cafe Italiano at The Sweet Shop
- Finalist: Caruso Candy & Soda Fountain Since 1922
- Finalist: Jim's Smokin' Cafe

INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE

- Winner: Bee Crafty
- Finalist: Fernwood Botanical Garden
- Finalist: Potawatomi Zoo

ITALIAN FOOD

- Winner: Capri Italian Restaurant South Bend
- Finalist: Cafe Italiano at The Sweet Shop
- Finalist: Pizza Transit LLC

MEXICAN FOOD

- Winner: Taqueria Don Chepe
- Finalist: El Amigo Pepe
- Finalist: El Rancho Viejo Niles

OUTDOOR DINING

- Winner: Sister Lakes Brewing Company
- Finalist: Iron Shoe Distillery
- Finalist: River Saint Joe

PIZZA

- Winner: Pizza Transit
- Finalist: Front Street Pizza Pub
- Finalist: Propaganda Pizza
- Finalist: Propaganda Pizza

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Our mission is to provide you with the highest quality of customer service and installation for your family's complete home comfort. We are proud to offer you the widest variety of Heating, Cooling & Indoor Air Quality products from the industry's leading manufacturers as well as honest, trustworthy, and reliable services. We offer competitive pricing with a solution to fit everyone's budget, in addition to multiple financing options.

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Michiana Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc. is extremely proud to have received our 10th Best of the Best Award as well as our 10th Carrier President's Award in 2024. The Carrier President's Award is a prestigious annual award that is given to Carrier Factory Authorized Dealers who demonstrate excellence in customer relations and service. The award was established in 2007 and is Carrier's highest honor for its dealers. Winners are held up to other dealers as an example of excellence and are expected to inspire other dealers to emulate them. Fewer than 1,500 Carrier dealers qualify for the award each year.

For the quality and comfort, you and your family deserve, turn to your local hometown experts at Michiana Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc. for all of your Heating, Cooling and Indoor Air Quality needs!

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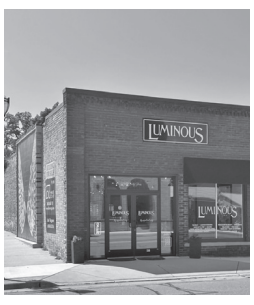
With gratitude, Luminous Hair Spa!

Congratulations SoulSkin Aesthetics @ Luminous Suites for being named Best Spa!



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Autumn Spitler
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ROMANTIC DINNER

- Winner: The Embers at Signal Point
- Finalist: Capri Italian Restaurant South Bend
- Finalist: Copper Rock Steakhouse South Bend

SANDWICH

- Winner: Sister Lakes Brewing Company
- Finalist: Iron Shoe Distillery
- Finalist: Old Tavern Inn

SEAFOOD

- Winner: Bonefish Grill
- Finalist: Capri Italian Restaurant South Bend
- Finalist: Iron Shoe Distillery
- Finalist: Juicy Buffet

SERVER

- Winner: Kalynn @ Wings Etc.
- Finalist: Payton @ Jim's Smokin' Cafe
- Finalist: Terri @ wings Etc

STEAK

- Winner: Jim's Smokin' Cafe
- Finalist: Copper Rock Steakhouse South Bend
- Finalist: Texas Roadhouse

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& Wedding Venues!
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SWEETS

- Winner: Veni's Sweet Shop
- Finalist: Cafe Italiano at The Sweet Shop
- Finalist: Caruso Candy & Soda Fountain Since 1922
- Finalist: Market 2555 LLC

VEGETARIAN FOOD

- Winner: Iron Shoe Distillery
- Finalist: Pizza Transit
- Finalist: The Rage

WINERY

- Winner: Round Barn Winery & Estate
- Finalist: St. Julian Winery & Distillery Tasting Room
- Finalist: Tabor Hill Winery & Restaurant

WINGS

- Winner: Wings Etc.
- Finalist: Curly Q's BBQ
- Finalist: Iron Shoe Distillery

Education

•

COLLEGE

- Winner: Southwestern Michigan College Niles
- Finalist: Lake Michigan College
- Finalist: Andrews University

DAY CARE

- Winner: YMCA of Greater Michiana Child Care & Preschool
- Finalist: Northside Child Development Center
- Finalist: The Children's Center

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Winner: Brandywine Elementary School.
- Finalist: Ballard Elementary School
- Finalist: Howard Elementary School

HIGH SCHOOL

- Winner: Brandywine Middle/ Senior High School
- Finalist: Union High School
- Finalist: Niles High School

LIBRARY

- Winner: Niles District Library
- Finalist: Buchanan District Library
- Finalist: Cass District Library Main Branch

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Winner: Brandywine Middle/ Senior High School
- Finalist: Ring Lardner Middle School

Twisted Bee

Twisted Bee would like to thank everyone for selecting us as their #1 cannabis store in Southwest Michigan! We are honored to accept this and are so grateful to everyone involved for making this happen. It all started with the wonderful welcoming the community gave to us when we opened in October. Since then, we've only felt more welcomed and support.

Here are some words from our staff reacting to this news! From Dispensary Supervisor George: "We have the best of the best community and customers, who have shown us endless support. A very good clientele to be able to deal with and we're hoping to come more into the community and show the same love and support they're showing to us. Happy to be here, happy to be a part of what we're doing, happy to be the Twisted Bee! Hoping that everyone is enjoying it as much as we're enjoying working with the customers. Best people I've ever worked with and best customers... Customers come in happy, and even if they don't, they always leave with a smile. I can't ask for anything better, honestly." From Team Lead Boogie: "It lets us know we're doing the right things in the right places. Getting stuff done, getting stuff in and out of here. Our customer service... Probably our best thing other than our products. We make everyone feel like they're at home." From Team Lead Yaz: "I'm just super excited because this is a big milestone for Dowagiac. Us not being open a full year is major and I'm excited to see what the next couple of months are going to bring!" From Team Lead TK: "Just glad to be in my own hometown, serving my own people. We have a really great team that's very passionate!" From Budtender Sonja: "I think it's awesome and exciting that we got it with us being open less than a year!" None of this would be possible without the dedication of our staff.

FRIENDS, FAMILY, COMMUNITY

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Health & Wellness

AUDIOLOGIST
- Winner: Hear Michigan Centers - Dowagiac
- Winner: West Michigan Hearing Specialists
- Finalist: Heidi Schmeltzer

CARDIOVASCULAR CARE
- Winner: Corewell Health Lakeland Hospitals Niles Hospital
- Finalist: Beacon Health System
- Finalist: Bronson advanced Cardiac Healthcare

CHIROPRACTOR
- Winner: Pure Motion Chiropractic
- Finalist: Alternative Wellness Center
- Finalist: Clear Choice Chiropractic Center

DENTISTS OFFICE
- Winner: Niles Dental Associates Kyle McGill DDS
- Finalist: Cassopolis Dental
- Finalist: Dowagiac Family Dentistry

DERMATOLOGIST
- Winner: Corewell Health Dermatology - Niles
- Winner: Stonegate Dermatology and Medical Spa
- Finalist: The South Bend Clinic - Dermatology

EYE CARE PROVIDER
- Winner: Smoke Vision Care
- Finalist: Great Lakes Eye Care
- Finalist: Niles Vision Clinic

FAMILY DOCTORS OFFICE
- Winner: Longmeadow Niles
- Finalist: Redbud Health Services
- Finalist: The South Bend Clinic - Family Medicine

FITNESS CLASSES
- Winner: Redbud Fitness & Lifestyle Center
- Finalist: Niles-Buchanan YMCA
- Finalist: SLR Pilates

GERIATRIC CARE
- Winner: Brentwood at Niles Senior Living
- Finalist: Riveridge Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center
- Finalist: The Timbers of Cass County

HEARING AID
- Winner: Beltone Hearing Aid Center
- Winner: Miracle-Ear Hearing Aid Center

HOSPITAL
- Winner: Corewell Health Lakeland Hospitals Niles Hospital
- Finalist: Beacon Health System - Memorial Hospital
- Finalist: Memorial Hospital

LOCAL GYM
- Winner: Elevate 24 SLR
- Finalist: Niles-Buchanan YMCA
- Finalist: Redbud Fitness & Lifestyle Center

MEDICAL FACILITY
- Winner: Redbud Health Services
- Finalist: Beacon Health Systems
- Finalist: Corewell Health Lakeland Hospitals Niles Hospital

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☑ Place for a Car Loan
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We are honored to be named one of the **Best of the Best in the 2024 Reader's Choice Contest!** As a family-owned funeral home, we care deeply for the families we serve, and our reputation reflects that passion.

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Brown
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& CREMATION SERVICES

ONCOLOGY CARE
- Winner: Corewell Health Medical Oncology & Hematology Program - Lemmen-Holton
- Finalist: Michiana Hematology Oncology

ORTHODONTIST
- Winner: Wnek Family Orthodontics
- Finalist: Harrington Orthodontics
- Finalist: South Bend Dental & Orthodontics

ORTHOPEDICS
- Winner: South Bend Orthopaedics
- Finalist: OSMC Goshen
- Finalist: Thomas Bemenderfer M.D.

PEDIATRICIANS OFFICE
- Winner: Dr. Leanne M. Miller MD
- Finalist: Michiana Pediatrics
- Finalist: M. Heffron PA

PHARMACY
- Winner: NILES WELLCARE PHARMACY
- Finalist: Martins Pharmacy
- Finalist: Walmart Pharmacy

PHYSICAL THERAPIST
- Winner: Brentwood at Niles Senior Living
- Finalist: Elite Aesthetics Michiana
- Finalist: Redbud Health Services

PODIATRIST
- Winner: William H. Fox DPM - Niles Foot Clinic PC
- Finalist: Jeffrey Biever DPM
- Finalist: Sandra A. Cho DPM

SENIOR LIVING FACILITY
- Winner: Brentwood at Niles Senior Living
- Finalist: The Timbers of Cass County
- Finalist: Woodland Terrace at Longmeadow
- Finalist: North Woods Village at Edison Lakes

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URGENT CARE

- Winner: WellNow Urgent Care
- Finalist: Corewell Health Lakeland Hospitals Niles Hospital
- Finalist: Memorial Hospital

WEIGHT LOSS CENTER

- Winner: Candescent Health and Wellness
- Finalist: Redbud Fitness & Lifestyle Center
- Finalist: Redbud Health Services

WOMENS CLINIC

- Winner: Candescent Health and Wellness
- Finalist: Michiana Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Finalist: Redbud Health Services
-

Lifestyle & Services

ACCOUNTANT

- Winner: Balanced Accounting & Tax Services
- Finalist: Scarpone & Co
- Finalist: Wooden Accounting

ATTORNEY

- Winner: Lebbin Law Office
- Finalist: Armstrong Betker & Schaeffer PLC
- Finalist: Duncan & Associates PLLC

AUTO BODY SHOP

- Winner: Grant Street Auto Service
- Finalist: Dowagiac Auto Body
- Finalist: Precision Auto & Body

AUTO SERVICES

- Winner: Clark's Service
- Finalist: Drive & Shine
- Finalist: Grant Street Auto Service

BANK

- Winner: Huntington Bank
- Finalist: 1st Source Bank
- Finalist: Sturgis Bank

BARBER

- Winner: Joes Barber & Style Shoppe
- Finalist: Bakeman Barbers
- Finalist: Lights Barber Styling

CAR LOAN

- Winner: Honor Credit Union
- Finalist: Circle Federal Credit Union
- Finalist: United Federal Credit Union

Honor Credit Union: Celebrating 90 Years of Commitment to Community

From the moment they opened their doors 90 years ago, Honor Credit Union has always prioritized putting people first. As a not-for-profit institution, Honor is completely owned by its members, not outside shareholders. As a result, every decision is guided with the best interests of their members in mind, emphasizing a commitment to serve individual needs with personalized solutions. This resonates throughout their culture and is evident in every member center throughout their 28 locations in Michigan.

Through the years, Honor has continually evolved to meet the needs of their members. With access to local fee-free ATMs and over 30,000 affiliated ATMs nationwide, their members enjoy seamless access to their finances wherever they go. Whether their members take advantage of their high-yield checking accounts or competitively low loan rates, Honor's commitment to member satisfaction has remained steadfast throughout its history.

"It's incredibly humbling to be part of an organization with a 90-year tradition of putting our members first," says Scott McFarland, Honor's CEO. "Our dedication to providing individualized financial solutions and compassionate care for all is at the heart of everything we do. This enduring commitment has guided us as we grow and continue to meet the needs of our members and serve our communities. We are eternally grateful!"

Honor Credit Union's commitment to excellence extends beyond mere transactions. They are dedicated to making a positive impact by giving back to their members and supporting the causes they care about. Whether displaying random acts of kindness or supporting non-profits, they are passionate about sponsoring and partnering with local organizations. In 2023 alone, they donated $734,293, supporting 669 community organizations in the areas their member centers serve. Giving back to the community is strongly infused in every aspect of Honor's culture, as Honor Team Members are encouraged to volunteer to strengthen the prosperity of the towns where they live and work. In 2023, Honor Team Members devoted 3,264 volunteer hours to serving the community and raised $27,000 for United Way.

While Honor now has locations all over Michigan, they serve each community with the same intimate care as when they opened their doors 90 years ago. With humble beginnings as Berrien Teacher's Credit Union, Honor has a long-standing tradition of supporting education in the community. In 2023, Honor awarded $28,000 in scholarships to help local students achieve their educational dreams. They also granted $15,000 to teachers as part of their Annual Teacher Awards Program to help fund classroom improvements. Honor Credit Union's unwavering dedication to education and community partnership is a testament to its mission of supporting people first and positively impacting members' lives.

At the heart of Honor Credit Union, are its core commitments, which drive its mission forward. These commitments focus on creating a strong foundation for the future, starting with the development and engagement of its team members. They realize that the goal of putting members first also means taking care of their entire team, as indicated by being recognized as a finalist for the "Best Place to Work" category in The Leader's Best of the Best this year.

"Our culture at Honor is truly unique and sets us apart. We foster an environment of innovation, engagement, collaboration, and fun," says VP of People Resources, Jessica Kehrer. "By nurturing this vibrant culture, we ensure that our team members are inspired and empowered to deliver the extraordinary service that Honor Credit Union is known for."

The recent recognition with the Best of the Best award in the categories of "Best Credit Union," "Best Place for a Car Loan," and "Best Mortgage Lender," serves as a testament to Honor Credit Union's commitment to excellence and community impact.

"We are truly honored by the recent Best of the Best Awards recognition, which reflects our dedication to serving our members and deep-rooted connection with the community," shares Honor CEO, Scott McFarland. "We appreciate everyone who voted and continues to trust us as a financial partner and community advocate, thank you for being the heart of Honor Credit Union's success."

Looking forward, Honor Credit Union remains committed to fostering financial well-being and community prosperity. For those seeking a trusted financial partner or ways to make a positive difference in their community, Honor Credit Union invites them to "Come Be Part of It" and join in building a brighter future. Together, the entire Honor team aspires to enrich lives and help its members achieve their financial dreams by adhering to people-first values that will continue to define their mission into the next 90 years.

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CAR WASH

- Winner: Drive & Shine Car Wash and Oil Change
- Finalist: Schilling Wash & Wax
- Finalist: Sparkle & Shine Car Wash

CARPET CLEANING SERVICE

- Winner: Michiana Sanitation Specialist
- Finalist: A2Z Carpet Cleaning
- Finalist: Crimmins Carpet Services
- Finalist: Ionic Fresh
- Finalist: Terrys Cleaning & Restoration

CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

- Winner: Astrong Construction LLC
- Finalist: Affordable Lawn Care Solutions
- Finalist: Arrow Fence & Gate LLC

CREDIT UNION

- Winner: Honor Credit Union
- Finalist: Circle Federal Credit Union
- Finalist: United Federal Credit Union

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3 locations in Michigan to serve you
Buchanan | Dowagiac | New Buffalo
www.smokevisioncare.com

Thank you
for voting us one of the best in
Geriatric Care, and Senior Services

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Leader Publications
MICHIANA'S FAVORITE BUSINESSES

We focus on creating an atmosphere that is welcoming, inviting, and community centered.
Call for a tour today!

Riveridge
REHABILITATION & HEALTHCARE CENTER
333 Wells St., Niles, MI 49120
269-684-1111

Thank you for voting us one of the best!

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Leader Publications
MICHIANA'S FAVORITE BUSINESSES

GROCERY STORE • PHARMACY
LIQUOR STORE

20 LOCATIONS
TO SERVE YOU INCLUDING

Niles, 720 S 11th St.
269-684-2722

Stevensville, 5637 Cleveland Ave.
269-429-1711

St Joseph, 2121 S. Cleveland Ave.
269-983-1223

Granger - Heritage Square
7355 Heritage Square Dr.
574-807-8220

Granger, 12850 SR 23
574 277 5521

Martin's
Count On Us!

Brentwood at Niles Senior Living

Located in the heart of Niles, Brentwood offers a unique and vibrant living experience for seniors. With a range of living options and personalized care, the community is designed to meet the diverse needs of its residents. At Brentwood, we are committed to creating a warm, welcoming, and active environment, emphasizing the importance of community and personal fulfillment. We would like to thank the community for Voting us Best of the Best!

Contact Information:
Jen Hack
Director of Sales and Marketing
Phone: 269-684-9470
Email:
jhack@prioritylc.com

Thank you for voting for us!

Veni's SWEET SHOP

228 E. Main St., Niles, MI 49120
(269) 684-1323

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Voted #1

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THANK YOU for voting us one of Michiana's favorite businesses.

DANCE STUDIO

- Winner: Miss Michele and Co.
- Finalist: Footprints Dance Studio
- Finalist: Green Dance Academy

FUNERAL HOME

- Winner: Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services
- Finalist: Hoven Funeral Home
- Finalist: Starks Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Services-Starks & Menchinger Chapel

HAIR SALON

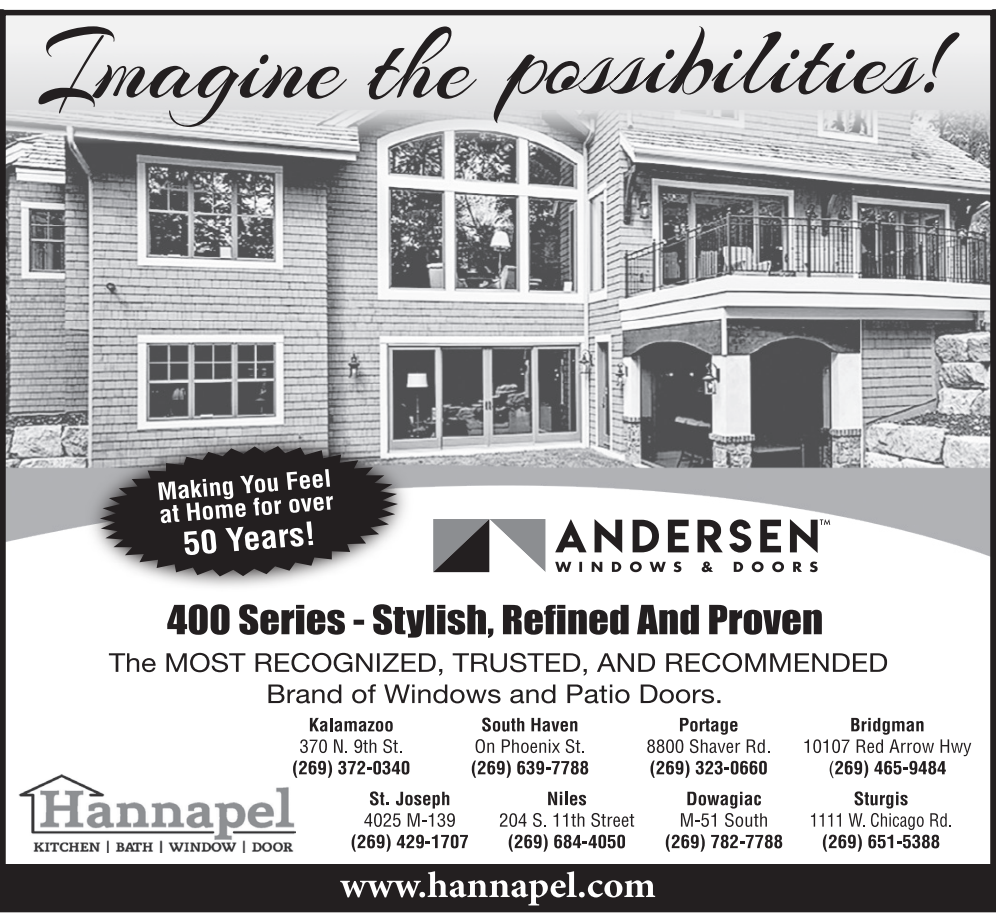
- Winner: Luminous Hair Spa
- Finalist: Beauty Bar 201
- Finalist: Salon 414

HAIR STYLIST

- Winner: Hailee @ Luminous
- Finalist: Alexis @ Luminous
- Finalist: Danielle @ Luminous

HEATING & COOLING SERVICE

- Winner: Michiana Heating & Air Conditioning
- Finalist: Great Lakes Heating And Air Conditioning
- Finalist: Roberts Service Co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Portage 8800 Shaver Rd. (269) 323-0660
Bridgman 10107 Red Arrow Hwy (269) 465-9484
Hannapel KITCHEN | BATH | WINDOW | DOOR
St. Joseph 4025 M-139 (269) 429-1707
Niles 204 S. 11th Street (269) 684-4050
Dowagiac M-51 South (269) 782-7788
Sturgis 1111 W. Chicago Rd. (269) 651-5388
www.hannapel.com

INSURANCE AGENT

- Winner: Jessica Massey - State Farm Insurance Agent
- Finalist: Greg Osborn - State Farm Insurance Agent
- Finalist: Hagen Insurance Agency - Meemic Insurance Agent
- Finalist: Joe Jilek - State Farm Insurance Agent
- Finalist: Patsy Sears - State Farm Insurance Agent

INSURANCE COMPANY

- Winner: State Farm
- Finalist: Allstate
- Finalist: Farm Bureau
- Finalist: Farmers Insurance

INVESTMENT FIRM

- Winner: Edward Jones - Financial Advisor: Becky Brown CFP®|AAMS|CRPC
- Finalist: Edward Jones - Financial Advisor: Gregory A Surber AAMS
- Finalist: Edward Jones - Kim MacGregor
- Finalist: Golden Years Financial Advisors

IT OR COMPUTER SHOP

- Winner: Computer Company CO.
- Finalist: Best Buy

LANDSCAPING

- Winner: Affordable Lawn Care Solutions
- Finalist: Creative Landscaping & Design
- Finalist: Villwock's Outdoor Living

MORTGAGE LENDER

- Winner: Honor Credit Union
- Finalist: Circle Federal Credit Union
- Finalist: United Federal Credit Union

NAIL SALON

- Winner: Luminous Hair Spa
- Finalist: Beauty Bar 201
- Finalist: Nails by Hol

OIL CHANGE

- Winner: Clarks Service
- Finalist: Drive & Shine Car Wash and Oil Change
- Finalist: Grant Street Auto Service

PET SERVICES OR GROOMER

- Winner: Blue Paw Pet Spa
- Finalist: Garver Grooming
- Finalist: Shampoochie Dog Salon

PHOTOGRAPHER

- Winner: Danielle Sergio Photography
- Finalist: Blue Print Photography
- Finalist: On Base Productions

PLUMBER

- Winner: Advantage Plumbing Inc.
- Finalist: Niezgodski Plumbing
- Finalist: Peach Mechanical

REAL ESTATE AGENCY

- Winner: Red Shoe Realty
- Finalist: Horizon Realty Group
- Finalist: Integrity Real Estate Professionals ERA Powered

REALTOR

- Winner: Red Shoe Realty
- Finalist: Integrity Real Estate Professionals ERA Powered
- Finalist: Kyle Zelmer

SENIOR SERVICES

- Winner: Brentwood at Niles Senior Living
- Finalist: PACE of Southwest Michigan
- Finalist: Riveridge Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center

SEPTIC SERVICE

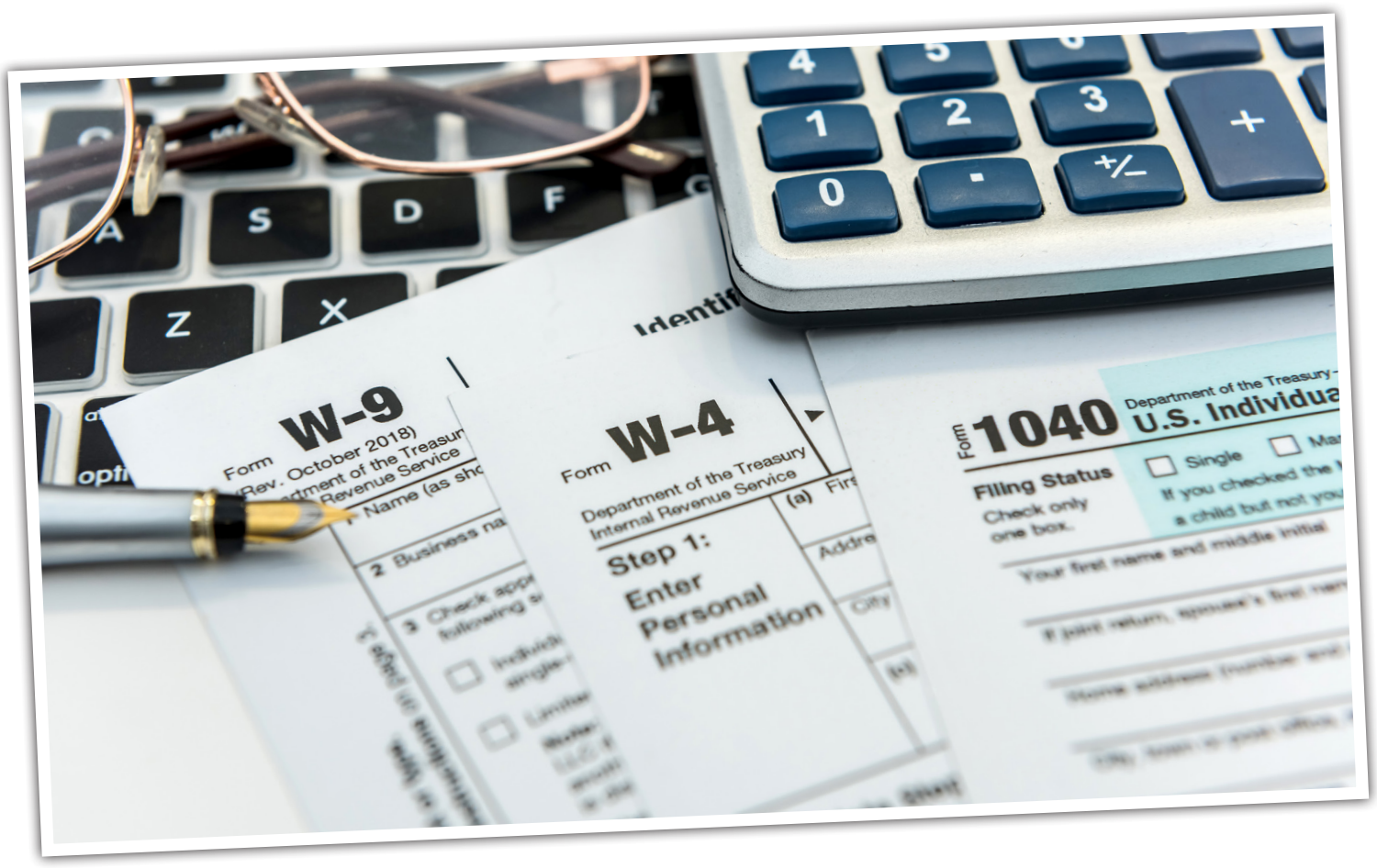
- Winner: Krueger's Septic Services
- Finalist: Dig-It Excavating Inc.
- Finalist: Pump That Septic

SPA OR MASSAGE

- Winner: Soulskin Aesthetics
- Finalist: Bar 201
- Finalist: Massage Life

TANNING SALON (ALTERNATIVE)

- Winner: Beauty Bar 201
- Finalist: Fun Tan
- Finalist: Tans Down Under



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Thank you for voting us one of the best places to work in Dowagiac!

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BEST of the BEST
Leader Publications
MICHIANA'S FAVORITE BUSINESSES

FULL TIME BENEFITS AFTER 90 DAYS
- Excellent Insurance
- 7 Paid Holidays
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Profit Sharing
- 9 Days PTO
- Military Pay

TANNING SALON (UV)
- Winner: Fun Tan
- Finalist: Tans Down Under
-
- Tattoo Parlor
- Winner: Luminous Hair Spa
- Finalist: Beyond Ink & Art
- Finalist: Hell or high water tattoo

TAX SERVICES
- Winner: Balanced Accounting & Tax Services
- Finalist: H&R Block
- Finalist: Scarpone & Co

VETERINARIAN
- Winner: Bergman Veterinary Medical Center
- Finalist: Dr. Diane Williams DVM The Country Doctor
- Finalist: Fedore Large Animal Veterinary Services

WASTE MANAGEMENT
- Winner: LRS Formerly Michiana Recycling & Disposal

WEDDING VENUE
- Winner: The Grand LV
- Finalist: Fernwood Botanical Garden
- Finalist: Sister Lakes Brewing Company
- Finalist: The Embers at Signal Point

Retail

ANTIQUE SHOP
- Winner: Four Flags Antiques
- Finalist: Pickers Paradise
- Finalist: Main Street Antique Mall

APPLIANCE STORE
- Winner: Camden Appliance Niles
- Finalist: Bills Appliances
- Finalist: Home Improvement

BOOKSTORE
- Winner: Casperson Books
- Finalist: Glendora Bookshop
- Finalist: Market 2555 LLC

BUTCHER OR MEAT DEPARTMENT
- Winner: Lowery Meat & Seafood
- Finalist: Eby's Old Fashion Meat Market
- Finalist: Shelton's Farm Market

CARPET & FLOORING STORE
- Winner: Hams Home Improvements
- Finalist: Abbey Carpet & Floor
- Finalist: Shillings Carpets & Floors

CONSIGNMENT SHOP
- Winner: Pickers Paradise Antique Mall
- Finalist: Four Flags Antiques
- Finalist: WHO KNEW? Consignment

FARMERS MARKET OR FRUIT STAND
- Winner: Buchanan Farmers Market
- Finalist: Shelton's Farm Market
- Finalist: South Bend Farmers Market

FLOWER SHOP
- Winner: Flowers by Anna - Buchanan
- Finalist: Buchanan Floral Company & Greenhouses
- Finalist: East Main Gardens Florist & Greenhouses Inc

FURNITURE OR DÉCOR
- Winner: Pickers Paradise Antique Mall
- Finalist: Four Flags Antiques
- Finalist: Imperial Furniture

GARDEN CENTER
- Winner: Vite Greenhouses
- Finalist: Ecklers Produce & Greenhouse
- Finalist: Varner's Greenhouse & Nursery

GIFT SHOP
- Winner: Market 2555 LLC
- Finalist: Fernwood Botanical Garden
- Finalist: Pickers Paradise Antique Mall

GROCERY STORE
- Winner: Martin's Super Market
- Finalist: Harding's
- Finalist: Shelton's Farm Market
-

HARDWARE STORE
- Winner: Redbud Hardware
- Finalist: Hales True Value Hardware
- Finalist: Lowes Home Improvement
-
- Hunting & Fishing
- Winner: Rusty Hooks Bait & Tackle
- Finalist: Walmart

LIQUOR STORE
- Winner: Crockers Party Store
- Finalist: Martins Super Market
- Finalist: Mega Liquor Store

LUMBER YARD
- Winner: Lowes Home Improvement
- Finalist: Big C Lumber
- Finalist: Menards

MARINA
- Winner: Diamond Lake Marina
- Finalist: Clear Water Marina
- Finalist: Eagle Lake Marine Inc

MATTRESS STORE
- Winner: Mattress Warehouse
- Finalist: Big Lots
- Finalist: Mattress Firm Clearance Center Grape Road

MOTORCYCLE OR ATV DEALER
- Winner: McDaniels Harley-Davidson
- Winner: North End Cycle Shop Honda Service
- Finalist: Elkhart Indian Motorcycle

NEW CAR DEALERSHIP
- Winner: Tyler KIA
- Finalist: Campbell Ford
- Finalist: Tyler Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM

ORGANIC FOOD
- Winner: Fresh Thyme Market
- Finalist: Lowery Meat & Seafood
- Finalist: Shelton's Farm Market

RV DEALER
- Winner: Krenek RV
- Winner: Tiara RV Sales
- Finalist: East To West RV

Thank you for voting for us!

BEST
Geriatric Care
Physical Therapist
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Best Tax Services
and Accountant

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MICHIANA'S FAVORITE BUSINESSES

TIRE SHOP

- Winner: Zolman's Best One Tire & Auto Care
- Finalist: D&D Tire & Service
- Finalist: Jackson Tire

USED CAR DEALERSHIP

- Winner: Campbell Ford
- Finalist: Levalley Chevrolet GMC INC
- Finalist: Murdock Used Cars

WINDOWS

- Winner: Hannapel Home Center
- Finalist: Champion Replacement Windows of South Bend
- Finalist: Glass Doctor of Niles MI
- Finalist: Menards

WOMENS APPAREL SHOP

- Winner: Market 2555 LLC
- Finalist: Dani Morgans Boutique
- Finalist: Marshall Shoppe

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Thank You for Voting

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2024 READER'S CHOICE CONTEST
BEST of the BEST
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MICHIANA'S FAVORITE BUSINESSES

YOU VOTED US BEST:

☑ Credit Union Place for a Car Loan
☑ Mortgage Lender

Green Stem

Nestled in the heart of Niles, Michigan, Green Stem stands as a testament to family values and community spirit in the burgeoning cannabis industry. Founded by the Lynch family, Green Stem has quickly become a local favorite for both seasoned cannabis enthusiasts and newcomers alike.

Opening in early 2020, Green Stem has established a reputation for quality and reliability in the community. At Green Stem, we pride ourselves on offering a diverse range of high-quality cannabis products. Our carefully curated selection includes everything from premium flower and potent concentrates to delicious edibles and soothing topicals. Each product is chosen with care, ensuring our customers have access to the best that the cannabis market has to offer.

Our family-run business is built on a foundation of trust, transparency, and a deep commitment to our community. Unlike many corporate entities, we are active owners who work daily in our store, participating in the culture and truly understanding the needs of our customers. We keep our money local and are proud to call Niles our home. We are not some out-of-state corporation; we are your neighbors, your friends, and your fellow cannabis consumers.

One of the key aspects that set Green Stem apart is our loyal and excitable customer base. We are grateful for the support of our community, and we strive to give back through various initiatives and events. We are proud supporters of the Ferry Street Resource Center in Niles, working to uplift and enhance our local community. Our customer loyalty program, special promotions, and educational workshops are just a few ways we show our appreciation.

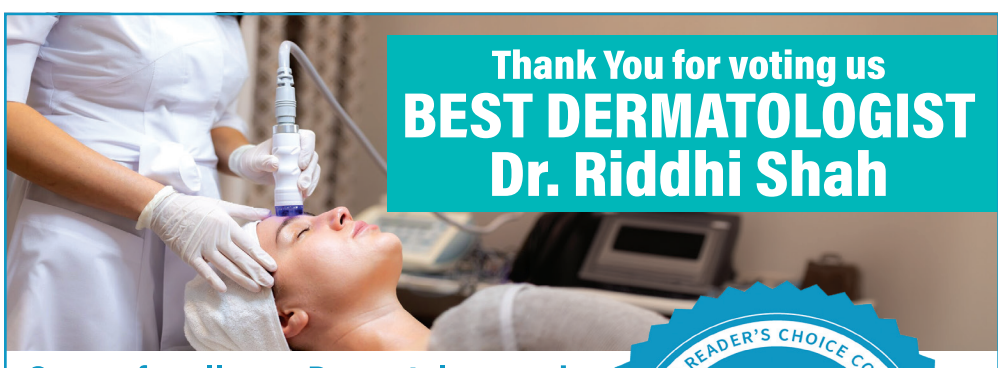
We are incredibly grateful to have been voted The Best of the Best by Southwest Michigan, an honor that reflects our commitment to excellence and our deep connection to the community.

Green Stem is more than just the original 11th Street dispo; it is a place where the community comes together. Our family looks forward to welcoming you and sharing our passion for cannabis in a friendly, approachable environment. Visit us at Green Stem in Niles, MI, and experience the difference of a family-owned business that truly cares.

HEAR MICHIGAN CENTERS

THANK YOU FOR VOTING US BEST AUDIOLOGIST!

(269) 390-1136 • www.hearmichigan.com
205 Commercial St., Dowagiac, MI 49047



Thank You for voting us BEST DERMATOLOGIST Dr. Riddhi Shah

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